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Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly

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I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 70/305, the General Assembly decided to establish, at its seventy-first session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, open to all Member States:

(a) To identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on progress achieved in past sessions as well as on previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation;

(b) To submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-first session.

2. In that resolution, the General Assembly also decided that the Ad Hoc Working Group should continue its review of the inventory of Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted to the Assembly at its seventieth session (A/70/1003), and, as a result, to continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report to be submitted to the Assembly at its seventy-first session. The present report and the recommendations contained herein are submitted pursuant to the provisions of that resolution.

3. During the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, the President of the General Assembly appointed Ambassador Vladimir Drobnjak, Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations, and Ambassador Lana Zaki Nusseibeh, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations, as Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group.

II. Proceedings

4. The Working Group held a total of nine meetings, on 20 February, 15 and 28 March, 10 and 28 April and 30 August 2017.

5. The programme of work was organized into two practical stages, as follows: general discussion and exchange of views; and thematic meetings. The themes identified by the Co-Chairs for consideration in the four thematic meetings comprised:

(a) The role and authority of the General Assembly;

(b) The working methods of the Assembly;

(c) The selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads of the United Nations system;

(d) The strengthening of the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly.

6. In addition, two meetings were held as part of the interactive dialogue between permanent missions and the Secretariat (15 March and 15 May 2017). A presentation of the zero draft of the resolution was made at an informal meeting on 26 May 2017.

A. General discussion

7. The first and second meetings of the Working Group were convened by its Co-Chairs on 20 February 2017 and were attended by the President of the General Assembly. Following introductory remarks by the Co-Chairs, the participants of the meetings heard interventions from 27 delegations, including on behalf of major groups.

The Working Group also had before it a tentative timetable for the thematic discussions; the report of the Secretary-General on mandates addressed to the Secretariat that had not been implemented (A/71/780), issued pursuant to resolution 70/305; and a draft updated inventory chart of all revitalization mandates, which was uploaded on the dedicated revitalization link accessible from the website of the General Assembly (www.un.org/en/ga/revitalization/pdf/Updated_inventory_70_305_rev.pdf).

8. The Co-Chairs provided a number of thoughts on each of the clusters set out in paragraph 6 above in order to stimulate the general debate. They underlined that the General Assembly was the only universal principal organ of the United Nations and that, in order for it to best fulfil the roles assigned to it by the Charter of the United Nations, it needed to adapt to changing requirements and be able to continuously renew itself. The Co-Chairs looked forward to working closely with all delegations towards a resolution that addressed all issues on the Working Group's agenda in an effective and balanced manner, and which enjoyed widespread consensus. A series of briefings by the Secretariat was announced (e.g., on the *Journal of the United Nations* and follow-up actions on further enhancing the cooperation between permanent missions and the Secretariat). Among other things, the Co-Chairs cited the assessment of the process for the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General as a matter of importance in order to draw lessons learned and identify any further room for improvements.

9. In his opening remarks, the President of the General Assembly emphasized that recent outcomes demonstrated the importance of the kinds of reforms that were possible through the Working Group, citing the reforms on the selection and appointment process of the Secretary-General and on the strengthening of the Office of the President of the General Assembly. With regard to the former, the President urged the Working Group to reflect on the process that had been undertaken, focusing on lessons learned and areas that required further improvement, and to capture those reforms so that they might be embedded in the processes of future selections. With regard to the latter, the President encouraged the Working Group to consider ways to ensure that the Office of the President was able to work effectively and support the ever-increasing number of mandated processes, and that the transitions between presidencies ran smoothly. On a separate matter, the President raised the issue of the standards of decorum during the general debate, which, he argued, had been slipping in recent years, citing in particular the disturbingly high levels of noise, the low levels of attendance experienced when national leaders were speaking and the ignoring of time limits for speeches. He also indicated that the proliferation of high-level meetings should be reviewed. In general, the President encouraged the Working Group to identify the steps that could be taken to make the general debate more engaging and, ultimately, more effective at advancing the objectives of the Organization. Another issue of relevance were the rules and regulations for election campaigns, which the President encouraged the Working Group to examine in terms of ethics. Last but not least, the President encouraged the Working Group to consider exploring ways to improve the process of determining modalities for civil society participation in relevant meetings of the General Assembly, which, he stated, consumed an inordinate amount of time.

10. In the subsequent debate, speakers overwhelmingly noted the importance of the revitalization process and highlighted the significant achievements realized during the previous two sessions, in particular concerning the selection process of the Secretary-General (resolution 69/321) and the strengthening of the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly (resolution 70/305). While one group of States stressed the importance of enhancing the role and authority of the General Assembly, which would significantly contribute to the improvement of governance and the

enhancement of multilateralism, others stressed their desire to focus the Working Group's deliberations on enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the working methods of the Assembly. One delegation specifically stressed that the Working Group should not exceed its remit, citing the new Secretary-General's priority for the Organization to operate in a nimble manner. Another argued that the emphasis should be on consolidating the work achieved so far and underlined the priority it attached to increasing the efficiency of the United Nations by spending more wisely, delivering its mandates in better and more efficient ways and ensuring the Organization stayed within the agreed budget levels.

11. With regard to the selection and appointment process for the Secretary-General and other executive heads, many speakers expressed the wish to continue discussing the issue during the seventy-first session. One group of States underlined that the new modalities arising from the past two sessions should become the norm in future selection processes. Another group concurred that the standards achieved should be applied and strengthened in all future selection processes. It was recommended that existing practices in the selection of other executive heads that could be applicable in the selection of future Secretaries-General be considered, including a re-examination of the idea of more than one candidate. Furthermore, the draft resolution on the appointment of the Secretary-General by the General Assembly should be the subject of wide and extensive consultations with all Member States and be adopted in accordance with rule 141 of the Assembly's rules of procedure. One delegation referred to a note concerning lessons learned from the most recent selection process (A/71/774-S/2017/93). At the same time, it was pointed out that all the ideas expressed in this regard required thorough consideration, first of all in terms of their conformity to the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 97 thereof. That article stipulates that the Secretary-General shall be appointed by the General Assembly upon recommendation of the Security Council. It was recalled, in that context, that the most important task was to select the most worthy candidate. The desire to "overcodify" the procedure could lead to undesirable outcomes.

12. Pertaining to the selection process for other senior posts, a number of speakers welcomed the new Secretary-General's open and timely request to all Member States to nominate candidates to supplement his own search and to ensure a wide pool of candidates. Several Member States stressed that, as a general rule, there should not be a monopoly on senior posts by any State or group of States. It was argued that transparency now needed to be extended to the appointment of the Deputy Secretary-General, Under-Secretaries-General and Assistant Secretaries-General as well. One speaker advocated equitable regional representation, regional rotation and gender balance as guiding principles when selecting new executive heads and stressed that senior United Nations officials should be selected through a competitive process. In that context, one group proposed creating a code of ethics for the executive heads and the Senior Management Group similar to the code of ethics the Working Group had created for the President of the General Assembly during the previous session. Yet another group stressed the need to maintain the momentum on discussions under the selection cluster and called for the realization of gender parity among senior posts. To that effect, an accountability measure could include annual briefings from the Office of Human Resources Management to the Working Group on the relevant statistics.

13. With reference to the strengthening of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, several delegations welcomed the adoption of an oath of office and a code of conduct. One group of States noted that the expansion of activities of the General Assembly had made the presence of its President necessary year-round, and reiterated its call for the assignment of additional posts and the allocation of

sufficient financial resources from the United Nations regular budget. That was echoed by other speakers as well. It was also noted that, of the 71 Presidents elected so far, only 3 had been women. In the same vein, one group highlighted the historical underrepresentation of women among the Main Committee Chairs. Gender balance within the Office of the President was similarly identified as a matter of importance to the membership. One delegation called for informal hearings with candidates for the position of President, including in cases in which there was only one candidate. Another delegation proposed advancing the timing of the election of the President to earlier in the session to allow for better preparation by the incoming presidency.

14. Concerning working methods, several speakers touched upon the desirability of streamlining the agenda, including as a result of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. One group of States stressed the urgent need to eliminate duplication and overlap and to promote complementarity in the consideration of similar and related issues and to further examine the biennialization and triennialization of items. One speaker wondered whether the Working Group could consider follow-up options for the quadrennial comprehensive policy review. At the same time, better planning and scheduling of meetings emerged as an issue of particular interest to the membership. One group proposed that meetings organized in parallel to the general debate should be kept to the absolute minimum necessary in order to preserve the sanctity of the general debate. In the same vein, the number of high-level thematic meetings organized by the President of the General Assembly should be reduced and their themes should remain relevant to the wider membership. However, it was pointed out that a significant number of those events took place according to mandates, and therefore Member States shared responsibility for the proliferation of events. Another speaker questioned the designation "high-level" in instances when only a few ministers from capitals participated in such meetings. It was suggested that the Secretariat and the General Committee should enhance their cooperation to improve the scheduling of General Assembly meetings with a view to ensuring that there would be no overlap. Some noted that observing the time limits for participants in high-level meetings posed a problem, and had negative effects in particular for those Member States at the end of the speakers' list. In that context, one group suggested that a fuller written version of a statement could be circulated in the room or posted online. With regard to side events, one delegation suggested that the Secretariat take a lead in setting up a dedicated portal for side events during the high-level week, which Member States could use to publicize their events, noting the need to rationalize their number.

15. The same delegation seized upon the comments of President of the General Assembly regarding elections in the General Assembly and suggested considering guidelines for future election campaigns as part of deliberations of the Working Group for 2017. Another delegation proposed a more general consideration of the way balloting was conducted in order to see if the system could make better use of modern technology.

16. Under the issue of the role and authority of the General Assembly, one group of States stressed the need to consult with Member States within the Organization. The desire was expressed to see further improvements in the Security Council's annual report to the Assembly. Also suggested for consideration were ways for the Secretary-General to enhance his role in the peaceful settlement of disputes pursuant to Article 33 of the Charter.

17. One group underlined the importance it attached to multilingualism and looked forward to the full implementation of rule 55 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly concerning the issuance of the *Journal of the United Nations*. Another group looked forward to the innovative proposals to be presented by the

Secretariat on that issue. One delegation reiterated the importance it attached to the issue of the relationship between the Secretariat and permanent missions, regretting that the Co-Chairs had not scheduled a separate thematic meeting on the topic in the tentative calendar of work. The delegation specifically cited a number of areas of the Secretariat's work which it perceived as a matter of concern, including inaccurate information on the website of the Protocol and Liaison Service, the unwillingness of interpreters to provide their services beyond meeting hours, even if delegations remained on the speakers' list, and the lack of coordination among departments of the Secretariat. As a result, that delegation wished to determine during the session a list of issues that required follow-up and expected the participation of senior Secretariat officials in discussing ways to move forward, Others concurred that the Working Group's remit should include making the Secretariat more efficient and effective.

B. Thematic meetings

First thematic meeting: the role and authority of the General Assembly

18. In the course of the first thematic meeting, held on 15 March 2017, 27 delegations intervened, including on behalf of major groups. Following opening remarks by the Co-Chairs, who emphasized that the meeting would be at the very heart of what the revitalization process was all about and encouraged using it to identify concrete ways in which Member States could contribute to fulfilling the role and authority envisioned for the General Assembly, especially with regard to its cooperation with other United Nations organs, a briefing was provided by senior Secretariat officials. The briefing focused on follow-up actions taken pursuant to an informal meeting at the seventieth session on the relationship between the Secretariat and the permanent missions.

19. The Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management briefed the Working Group on actions taken by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management on points raised by Member States in 2016, specifically citing documentation, interpretation and matters related to protocol. While notable progress had been achieved regarding the timely issuance of reports originating in the Secretariat, there was a legitimate concern regarding the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. To alleviate that situation, the Department had sought, and would continue to seek, assistance from Member States. Separately, the Department had long championed innovation and as a result had initiated various tools and platforms to facilitate Member States' access to information, including through the PaperSmart portal and e-Subscription. The latest edition of the *Journal of the United Nations* and official documents issued daily at Headquarters, for example, could be accessed readily from a handheld smart device. To support the requirements of delegates with disabilities, the Accessibility Centre offered information and communications technology to support those with hearing, visual and physical impairments. As to the criteria for extending interpretation services beyond the scheduled meeting time, the Under-Secretary-General clarified that, without exception, interpreters were assigned to service meetings up to a maximum of three hours and that, beyond that, a 5- to 10-minute courtesy was granted at the discretion of the interpretation team leader if it made a significant difference to the proceedings. If a meeting needed to go beyond its scheduled time, another team would have to be assigned, capacity permitting, which, however, was almost always out of the question owing to the lack of idle capacity. With regard to the list of permanent missions to the United Nations (the "Blue Book") on the website of the Protocol and Liaison Service, the Department was now in the process of creating an online version which would be

automatically updated on a constant basis. At the same time, the Secretariat relied on receiving timely information from permanent missions.

20. Turning to the repeatedly expressed frustration by Member States about finding "the right person" within the Secretariat to whom to address concerns, the Under-Secretary-General informed the Working Group of the Secretary-General's decision to create a focal point in the Department of Management. In addition, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management was in the process of creating a "one-stop-shop" project team that would provide a single entry point for requesting meeting services, initially covering all events taking place in meeting rooms and, in a second phase, other requests, such as special events located outside meeting rooms. With a view to unifying available e-services to make them more convenient for delegations, the Department had developed the e-deleGATE portal, which was already available for use and provided all necessary information to Member States through a single platform. In conclusion, the Under-Secretary-General stressed that feedback from Member States was crucial to helping the Secretariat improve its services, which was why the Department had intensified its efforts by reaching out to Chairs, bureaux members and facilitators appointed by the President of the General Assembly, which had increased the response rate to the periodic client satisfaction surveys.

21. The Assistant Secretary-General of the Office of Central Support Services in the Department of Management noted that progress had been made since 2016, including, in close collaboration with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, on the unifying of services. In that regard, he confirmed that a focal point would be established in the Department of Management to address questions Member States might have when interacting with the Secretariat. In response to concerns expressed during the seventieth session on the issuance of stamps, the Department of Management had revised the terms of reference of its Committee on Stamp Design to ensure that future issuances would not be controversial or offensive. On catering, steps had been taken, together with the Department of Safety and Security, to restrict the number of people that would be allowed access to the North Delegates Lounge on Friday nights. With regard to sound and picture quality, the Department was aware of intermittent complaints about recurring issues with quality, which mainly affected duty stations in Addis Ababa, Nairobi and Santiago, and the matter was being looked into.

22. On behalf of the Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security, the Director of the Division of Headquarters Security and Safety in the Department of Safety and Security assured delegations of the positive steps taken by his Division to address the concerns of Member States, including by reducing the waiting time for passes, which could now be completed online through e-accreditation, and ensuring that dignitaries were able to move seamlessly during the general debate. In addition, the construction of a new screening building had doubled the throughput capacity that could be handled by the Department of Safety and Security.

23. The Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications highlighted that 2016 had been a year of achievement for the General Assembly, from taking the first steps to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leading the process for appointing the Secretary-General and holding the high-level meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants. Looking forward, the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 provided a once-in-a-generation opportunity to bring about enduring change in the way humankind treated that precious resource. The Assembly, therefore, continued to be at the centre of the strategic communications efforts of the Department of Public Information to tell the United Nations story to the global public every day in as many languages and on as many platforms as possible,

drawing on a global network of nearly 60 United Nations Information Centres, multilingual news platforms and a network of outreach partners, from non-governmental organizations and students to celebrity ambassadors and the media.

24. The Department of Public Information provided live and archived webcast coverage of General Assembly plenary meetings and meetings of the Main Committees in the six official languages, as well as same-day press releases in English and French summarizing the proceedings. The Department also provided practical support to the Office of the President of the General Assembly, starting with making a staff member available to support the communications team of the Office. In addition, it produced and disseminated the annual Assembly press kit and provided year-round media support to the President. Specifically with regard to the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, the Department was currently working closely with the Office of the President to identify and implement innovative ways to boost global awareness of ocean issues and of what the Conference aimed to achieve. In addition, the Department was collaborating with other relevant departments on the "one-stop-shop" project to streamline the process of holding events at Headquarters.

25. In the subsequent interactive segment, six delegations intervened and, inter alia, commended the Secretariat for steps taken since 2016, while acknowledging that some issues could still be improved. It was stressed that the Secretariat should think creatively in improving its services to Member States within existing budgets. The following specific issues were raised:

(a) Why sound engineers needed to be paid to service mandated meetings;

(b) Access to the garage by delegates;

(c) Limited cafeteria space as a result of the closure of the cafeteria in the south-east corner of the Secretariat building;

(d) The perceived illogical numbering and non-intuitive signage at Headquarters;

(e) The desirability of a "one-stop-shop" where Member States could book rooms and receive an indication of the cost charged for each requested service;

(f) A request for a centralized information board on daily side events;

(g) The criteria for access to different parts of Headquarters by civil society organizations registered with the Economic and Social Council;

(h) A request to extend the archiving of video and other materials provided for the general debate to other meetings of the General Assembly, especially high-level meetings.

26. Responding to the questions and comments raised, the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management informed the Working Group that the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management would look into the numbering of conference rooms and the general floor plan, noting that Geneva had its own mobile phone application that helped delegations find their way around. She confirmed that the "one-stop-shop" project would include billing information; and that side events would be reflected more comprehensively in the revised format of the *Journal of the United Nations*, which would be presented to the Working Group on 28 March 2017. The Assistant Secretary-General of the Office of Central Support Services in the Department of Management promised to look into the various questions raised, including the modalities for payments of sound engineers, parking and the signage used on the

United Nations premises. He confirmed that, in the future, bills for booking catering services would be provided in a more detailed format, differentiated by costs for the actual catering, cleaning requirements, security and other services. With regard to the opening of an entrance for delegates in the northern part of the garage and the reopening of the cafeteria, he stressed that the cost would be too prohibitive. In addition, the Director of the Division of Headquarters Security and Safety confirmed that the previous entrance in the northern part of the garage had been closed for security reasons pursuant to a comprehensive risk assessment. Concerning the free movement of non-governmental organizations and others within the Secretariat building, the Director noted that that should not happen and that, when it did, it would be duly investigated. In response to a question on the preservation of audiovisual records, the Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications of the Department of Information noted that much more material was being archived currently than had been the case in the past.

27. In the course of the subsequent debate, delegations generally focused on the role and authority of the General Assembly, especially from the perspective of the Assembly's relationship with the other principal organs, in particular the Security Council. The role of the Presidents was highlighted, and various speakers welcomed the periodic meetings between the President of the General Assembly and the Presidents of the Security Council and of the Economic and Social Council. Some groups argued against what they perceived as encroachment by the Security Council on the work of the Assembly and stressed the importance of the Council reporting to the Assembly, as well as the need for more analytical reports and special subject-oriented reports. The Assembly's role in the area of international peace and security was also highlighted. Various other delegations similarly called for respecting the Assembly's role as the only universal and fully representative intergovernmental organ within the Organization, and expressed their wish to further uphold that authority, including in the area of norm-setting.

28. Other speakers cautioned against any efforts to alter the current balance among the principal organs, stressing that improving the efficiency, effectiveness and transparency of the work of the General Assembly was the best way to revitalize the Assembly and that the Working Group should remain focused on its key objectives. One delegation stressed that proposals should not result in the reallocation of powers to the Assembly from other principal organs, especially in the field of peace and security. Various speakers suggested that the best way for the Assembly to be revitalized was for it to consider issues in a timely manner and to take meaningful action. Speakers underscored the importance of the implementation of Assembly resolutions as a potential indicator of a strengthened Assembly. Some cited and commended the draft inventory chart prepared by the Co-Chairs. One group suggested that any meaningful action should be focused on making the Assembly more efficient, namely, that it should look for creative ways to work, use its resources more sustainably, spend more wisely and deliver in new ways, including through leveraging the use of new technologies and streamlining back-office administrative processes.

29. Commenting on the relationship between permanent missions and the Secretariat, various delegations welcomed the interactive dialogue held at the outset of the meeting. Some argued that the result of such dialogue should be summarized in a follow-up document by the Co-Chairs that would be distributed among Member States and the Secretariat, which would allow for the keeping of a record of the problems raised as well as of the follow-up actions taken by the Secretariat to solve them. One group of States suggested including an appropriate provision in the next resolution on that issue. One delegation argued that there was much scope for the improvement of the Secretariat, and specifically suggested that it set up a dedicated

web portal on side events that would allow each mission to publicize their events, which would then give every delegation a useful overview of all side events. Another sought quicker responses from the Secretariat to queries from permanent missions.

30. Other issues raised during the debate included the potential role of the General Committee, which should be enhanced, and noted the leading role of the President of the General Assembly in that regard. One group of States welcomed the practice of interactive thematic debates and the General Assembly's engagement with other stakeholders, and invited the President to consult with Member States on the possibilities of achieving results-oriented outcomes. Also raised as deserving of the Working Group's attention were the issues of decorum of meetings and ethics as they related to elections. With regard to interaction with civil society, one group stressed the essential intergovernmental character of the United Nations and the priority that official State delegates had in addressing the Assembly in accordance with its rules of procedure. The same group commended the Department of Public Information for its work aimed at enhancing the visibility of the work of the Assembly in all six official languages as well as in other languages spoken by millions of people, such as Portuguese.

Second thematic meeting: the working methods of the General Assembly

31. The second thematic meeting was convened by the Co-Chairs on 28 March 2017. In accordance with paragraph 17 of resolution 70/305, the meeting participants heard briefings from the Chairs of the First, Fourth, Second, Third and Fifth Committees as well as the rapporteur of the Sixth Committee. Pursuant to paragraph 33 of the same resolution, the meeting also heard remarks by the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management, who presented innovative proposals on possible changes to the format, production and editing of the *Journal of the United Nations*. During the interactive question-and-answer periods that followed, delegations had an opportunity to pose questions. In the last part of the meeting, dedicated to general statements by delegations, a total of 18 speakers, including on behalf of major groups, took the floor. The Co-Chairs, in their opening remarks, offered a few questions to stimulate the discussion. Noting that several delegations during the general debate had called for making better use of the General Committee and the coordinating role that it was mandated to carry out, they invited practical suggestions for making better use of the General Committee. Furthermore, a question was raised with regard to concrete actions the General Assembly could take to ensure compliance with the annual mandate to rationalize the agenda. Closely related to that topic, the Co-Chair also asked how delegations envisioned the interlinkages between the revitalization process of the Assembly and the ongoing work in the Main Committees on their respective revitalizations, and the process of looking at the alignment of the agendas of the Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development in the light of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. On the issue of high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates, there had been a clear recognition of the need to optimize the scheduling of such meetings in order to avoid overburdening the agendas of delegations while at the same time recognizing the important function of those discussions.

Briefings by the Chairs of the Main Committees

32. The Chairs of the First, Fourth, Second, Third and Fifth Committees and the rapporteur of the Sixth Committee briefed the Working Group on the relevant statistics pertaining to their respective Committees (e.g., number of formal and

informal meetings held and resolutions adopted) and highlighted best practices concerning working methods, which differed from Committee to Committee. In general, they highlighted the introduction of e-services in several of the Committees, such as electronic inscription in the lists of speakers and the electronic sponsoring of resolutions, as having provided considerable benefits to Member States. Some had also introduced time limits for statements, another step forward in making the Committee proceedings more dynamic. Universally, they emphasized the importance of advance planning and smooth transition from one session to the next, close cooperation among their bureaux members and the indispensability of an effective relationship with the Secretariat. The need to ensure gender balance among Main Committee Chairs was highlighted.

33. The Chair of the First Committee referred to the use of a buzzer system to remind speakers that the time allocated for statements was about to expire. The Bureau of the Committee had sought and received suggestions from the five regional groups on ways and means to improve the Committee's working methods, which could be summarized as follows: making the drafting and sponsoring of resolutions more inclusive, transparent and convenient through the use of e-services; improving the interactive character of panel discussions; and improving the application of the rules of procedure. With regard to the last item, the time allocated to statements in the general debate and thematic discussions could be shortened and time limits should be enforced, including through the use of a buzzer system; and measures should be taken to ensure that rights of reply were not used to make general statements. All of the gathered recommendations would be shared with the incoming Chair and Bureau.

34. The Chair of the Fourth Committee noted that the work of the Committee had continued to make an important contribution to the debate of the General Assembly on international peace, security and development, noting the wide thematic range of issues discussed, which went back to the merger of the Fourth Committee and the Special Political Committee pursuant to Assembly resolution 47/233. The format of interactive dialogues such as question-and-answer periods for the most part continued to be a useful and informative part of the Committee's working methods. As a result of the efficient manner of its proceedings, the Committee's utilization rate was 90 per cent, well above the benchmark of 80 per cent. The Chair had taken an active role in opening the meetings on time, and in applying time limits for statements in the Committee. In contrast to prior years, all reports and pre-session documents had been out by the time the Committee met. With regard to issues of decolonization, numerous individuals had spoken as petitioners on a range of questions. Owing to the large number of petitioners, it was decided to reduce the speaking time from four to three minutes in order to accommodate them and to apply that rule in the strictest manner. Finally, the Chair noted that the Fourth Committee had had only one woman Chair in its entire history and expressed the hope that that statistic would improve in the future.

35. The Chair of the Second Committee noted the Committee's tradition of consensus at every stage of its work. He touched upon the ongoing discussions on the streamlining of the agendas of the Second and Third Committees and of the Economic and Social Council, as well as that of the high-level political forum, noting also the deliberations on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review during the seventy-first session. In general, it was important to work in close cooperation with the Bureau and to consult with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Fifth Committee and the Secretariat. In terms of working methods, the Chair called for a reduction in the number of side events and noted the importance of ensuring that time limits were observed. There

was a clear need for rationalizing the agenda, the next step of which was to find the right language to express that in a resolution.

36. The Chair of the Third Committee underscored the importance of time management in the Committee's work and noted that the cutting-off of the microphone had now become standard practice. She also welcomed the e-tools made available by the Secretariat to the Committee, such as for the sponsoring of draft resolutions and inscription in the lists of speakers, which tangibly facilitated the work of the delegations. From a substantive perspective, it was important to review the number of resolutions adopted each year and to ensure the implementation of the mandates adopted. Other measures that could be taken included the convening of informal briefings on issues of major concern to the membership. The Chair noted the synergy in the work of the Second and Third Committees as reflected in the deliberations on the streamlining of their agendas in the context of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. Small steps could include joint meetings of the Second and Third Committees, which would allow each to learn from the other's perspective.

37. The Chair of the Fifth Committee noted the importance of cooperation between the present and incoming Bureaux and that the outgoing Bureau should prepare a preliminary programme of work for the session in the fourth quarter in order to give clear guidance to the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions with regard to the priorities of the Committee. It would be highly useful if the incoming and outgoing Bureaux met with representatives of the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee in June and/or July for early planning purposes. In 2016, the United Nations Controller and the Chair of the Committee collaborated on an effort to create space for an informal conversation between the Secretariat and new delegates. Many called for that practice to become a recurring feature. The Chair recalled General Assembly decision 34/401, which included a mandatory deadline not later than 1 December for the submission to the Fifth Committee of all draft resolutions with financial implications. Last but not least, the Chair highlighted that the Committee Secretariat was led by a team composed entirely of women, and that the Bureau of the seventy-first session was predominantly made up of women. At the same time, the current Chair was only the second woman to hold the position in the Committee's history.

38. The Rapporteur of the Sixth Committee highlighted as a particular innovation during the seventy-first session the practice of not scheduling formal meetings on certain dates in accordance with resolution 69/250 on the pattern of conferences. The Committee had held its annual exchange of views on its working methods under the agenda item on revitalization, discussing the provisional programme for the forthcoming session, with the significant innovation of scheduling the item earlier in the session. The Bureau proactively addressed an issue of common concern among delegations, namely, the overlap in its programme of work with other scheduled meetings. The various e-tools provided by the Secretariat enabled access by delegations to a rich and diverse array of information.

39. In the subsequent question-and-answer segment, delegations wondered how often Main Committee Chairs met among themselves and whether synergies could be achieved through closer cooperation among them. In response, the Chairs informed the Working Group that the General Committee was the appropriate forum for that, but noted that it had scarcely been convened during the seventy-first session. One delegation also suggested that Main Committee Chairs should provide written handover reports to their successors. The innovation of time limits was generally welcomed.

Presentation on the Journal of the United Nations

40. The Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management presented two options and sought Member States' guidance thereon through the resolution they would negotiate during the current session. Option 1[1] would separate the announcements of meetings of the General Assembly, Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies, to be translated daily into the six official languages, while the remainder of the standard content would be provided in English and French, bearing in mind that the principal mandate for the *Journal* was contained in the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. This option could be operationalized from within existing resources. Option 2, which would translate the entire content of the current *Journal* into the six official languages throughout the year, would entail budgetary implications exceeding $2 million per biennium. Irrespective of those two options, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management was in the process of redesigning the *Journal* in such a way as to make it, and in particular its digital version, more user-friendly, which would introduce a wide variety of new options to allow delegations to customize their own versions of the *Journal*. In the subsequent question-and-answer session, speakers generally welcomed the presentation while indicating the need for time to study it in detail.

Statements/debate

41. During their general statements, Member States expressed appreciation for the briefings they had received and felt encouraged by a number of steps already taken and agreed at previous sessions. At the same time, there was wide recognition that additional measures were both necessary and feasible in order to further enhance the role and authority of the General Assembly and to strengthen the impact of its work. It was argued, inter alia, that improvement of working methods was not a technical but a political matter, with wider ramifications on the status of the Organization's work. Speakers expressed continuing concern over the perceived steady increase in the number of meetings, including during the high-level week in September, and called for enhanced planning and coordination, stressing in that regard the leadership role of the President of the General Assembly, the roles of the General Committee and of the Secretary-General and the desirability of streamlining the Assembly's programme of work. One group called for keeping the number of high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates to a minimum and to ensure that the themes chosen reflected the priorities of the wider membership. The same group proposed that the Working Group draft recommendations to Member States on holding high-level side events. Another group argued that concentrating high-level events in a specific period of time could increase the magnitude of political ramifications through more intense high-level participation from the capitals.

42. Several speakers also called for further rationalizing the agenda of the General Assembly, including through the clustering, biennialization and triennialization of items. One delegation suggested that the Working Group should lead by example by biennializing the revitalization item itself. Some raised the option of eliminating items and/or of establishing sunset clauses, while stressing the need for the prior agreement of the sponsoring Member State. The ongoing process of exploring ways to streamline and better reflect the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in

[1] Under option 1, the *Journal* would be divided into two parts. Part I would be limited to official meetings only, including meetings on that day and forthcoming meetings, and would also include meeting summaries. Part II would include all other meetings and information. While part I would be available in the languages of the Assembly throughout the year, part II would be published in English and French only throughout the year.

intergovernmental proceedings, including options to synergize the work of the Assembly, in particular of its Second and Third Committees, and of the Economic and Social Council, and to ensure their complementarity, was welcomed repeatedly.

43. Other matters raised included the wish to ensure that interpretation services be provided to meetings even if they ran over the time allotted; the continued availability of hard copies of all documents irrespective of the existence of e-services; the promotion of multilingualism, in particular of Spanish; the need to ensure the timely issuance of documentation; the need to encourage increased briefings by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly; the need to ensure that all meetings were started punctually; the need to consider advancing the date of election of the President of the General Assembly from the current practice of three to six months before the opening of the session; and the need to ensure that the Assembly observed best electoral practices, including from an ethical point of view, and that it consider changing the format of ballot papers as well as electronic balloting.

Third thematic meeting: selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads of the United Nations system

44. The Co-Chairs convened the third thematic meeting of the Working Group on 10 April 2017 and heard statements from 27 delegations, including on behalf of major groups. Speakers overwhelmingly welcomed the most recent selection process that had led to the appointment of the ninth Secretary-General, citing the various innovative steps taken as a result of resolution 69/321, adopted based on the deliberations of the Working Group, which had recommended, inter alia, a joint letter from the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council soliciting candidates; the circulation of candidates' curricula vitae and vision statements; and the organization of informal dialogues with the entire membership of the General Assembly. At the same time, the view was expressed that it was important to now enshrine the existing procedure in order to ensure that it would be applied in future selection processes, including for the seeking of a second term; to become, in the words of one delegation, the unquestionable norm.

45. Member States, however, highlighted that the procedures based on resolution 69/321 could be further improved, including through permitting stakeholders other than Member States to put forward candidates; establishing a deadline for the submission of candidates; defining the criteria for the withdrawal of a candidacy and the number of candidates a Member State could put forward; and amending the modalities of the informal dialogues in the General Assembly to make them more interactive and afford more speaking time to the candidates. Several speakers called for the release by the Security Council of the results of its straw polls, noting that they had been publicized immediately by the media after each round. The role of the President of the General Assembly was also underlined in the drafting of a substantive appointment resolution. For the purpose of further improving existing procedures, one speaker suggested that it would be useful to prepare a document to outline the steps taken to implement resolution 69/321, including identification of best practices. Another proposed reviewing all existing resolutions related to the selection process of the Secretary-General in order to consolidate relevant provisions and adopt a single, consolidated version. In that context, one delegation drew attention to a note on the selection process for the Secretary-General of the United Nations (A/71/774-S/2017/93) and a group of States indicated that it was also drawing up its own conclusions, which it intended to share with the Working Group. Another group recalled a report of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2009 on the selection of executive heads as a useful reference (JIU/REP/2009/8). The same group wished to apply best practices from the recent selection process to the

election of the Presidents of the General Assembly, including the convening of informal dialogues with the wider membership.

46. Some delegations expressed a desire to consider further a number of elements on which no consensus had been found so far, namely, the establishment of a single, non-renewable term; the provision of multiple candidates by the Security Council for consideration by the General Assembly; and the full application of rule 141 of the Assembly's rules of procedure, including the conduct of a secret ballot even in the case of a single candidate. The continued relevance of gender opportunity and geographical rotation were intermittently raised and reaffirmed.

47. On the other hand, other speakers expressed their willingness to consider further steps to improve the selection procedure contingent upon the careful study of any new proposals to ensure their compatibility with the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 97. One delegation stressed that an issue of paramount importance in the selection process was to identify the best possible candidate and that it was therefore unreasonable to adopt any formula that would run counter to that objective, citing, inter alia, the establishment of a deadline for the submission of candidacies. According to the same delegation, gender should only be a secondary consideration in the appointment of the Secretary-General. The delegation also argued against making public the results of straw polls and opposed a longer, single term to retain the possibility of removing a Secretary-General who was unresponsive to the membership. Another speaker also opposed the creation of single term and argued in favour of appointing the Secretary-General by consensus rather than by secret ballot. It was also emphasized that the best way for candidates to interact with the Member States was through the regional groups. Furthermore it was important to avoid duplication of hearings in the General Assembly and the Security Council.

48. Many delegations argued that the improvements in the selection process should not be limited to the Secretary-General but should also be extended to the appointment of executive heads and other senior posts, such as the Deputy Secretary-General, Under-Secretaries-General and Assistant Secretaries-General, which should be based on merit, taking into account gender and geographical balance while ensuring the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity. Opposition was expressed to what was perceived as monopolies on senior posts by specific countries or regions. Several speakers welcomed the Secretary-General's expressed commitment to reaching gender balance at all senior levels by the end of his tenure, as well as the invitation by the Secretariat to put forward candidates to supplement the Secretary-General's own search to ensure a wide pool of candidates. One group proposed that the Working Group create a code of ethics for the executive heads and the Senior Management Group similar to the one adopted for the President of the General Assembly during the previous session.

49. In their concluding remarks, the Co-Chairs welcomed the valuable comments made and assured the Working Group that they had taken careful note of the various interventions.

Fourth thematic meeting: strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

50. The Co-Chairs convened the fourth thematic meeting on 28 April 2017. It included briefings by the President of the General Assembly and his Chef de Cabinet and by the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management. The briefings were followed by an interactive question-and-answer session and, subsequently, by remarks from 21 delegations, including on behalf of major groups.

51. In their opening remarks, the Co-Chairs noted the dynamic changes in the Office of the President of the General Assembly over the years as a direct output of the Working Group's deliberations, with the resolution adopted at the seventieth session of the General Assembly in particular representing a milestone in strengthening the Office in terms of its accountability, transparency and institutional memory. The President of the seventy-first session was the first President to take an oath of office and observe a code of conduct. Recalling previous interventions from Member States proposing that interactive dialogues with candidates for the post of President should be considered, the Co-Chairs sought comments on whether that practice should be institutionalized. They also sought comments on the possibility of advancing the date of the election of the President to allow sufficient time for handover and preparation for the incoming session. The Co-Chairs expressed the hope that the forthcoming consultations in the Fifth Committee on the Secretary-General's proposals to be submitted in the context of the biennium 2018-2019 would take into account the ongoing deliberations of the Working Group. They also suggested examining whether any recommendations in the report of the Task Force on the functioning of the Office of the President of the General Assembly (A/70/783, annex) that had not been taken up in resolution 70/305 might merit further attention.

52. The President of the General Assembly briefed the Working Group on the implementation of the mandates addressed to him by resolution 70/305, highlighting the considerable changes that had been made under his presidency, including the taking of an oath and the observance of a code of ethics; the vetting of contributions; and the completion of financial disclosure forms. He also indicated that considerable progress had been made in relation to archiving and record-keeping. He welcomed the handover report received from his predecessor and expressed his surprise at the actual workload of the Office of the President, which was larger than expected, but which was not fully budgeted for. The President thanked all Member States who had seconded staff to his office and commended the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management for its essential year-round support. At the same time, the absence of any permanent professional posts in the Office of the President was a matter of concern, which, he argued, undermined the effectiveness of the Office and the smooth running of the General Assembly and the United Nations as a whole. He therefore encouraged Member States to build on the progress made during past sessions, in particular in the context of the budget for the next biennium.

53. Elaborating on the briefing by the President of the General Assembly, the Chef de Cabinet of the Office of the President reported that the President had regularly consulted with the membership through periodic meetings with the five regional groups and regular meetings with the facilitators appointed by him, as well as two meetings of the General Committee. He had also continued the practice of circulating memos of his meetings with the heads of other principal organs. Providing relevant statistics concerning the work of the General Assembly during its seventy-first session, the Chef de Cabinet noted the trend of an increasing workload which, he argued, had a direct impact on the work of permanent missions, the Office of the President and the Secretariat. The current configuration of the Office of the President, he said, was not equipped to deal with that burden. He emphasized that situation by pointing out the number and mandates of high-level meetings; the fact that informal consultation processes spanned several sessions; and the fact that the President took office only one week before the high-level segment, which, he argued, did a real disservice to the Assembly. Consequently, he encouraged Member States to support the proposal for the establishment of an additional post at the P-5 level in the Office of the President, review the resources allocated for current staffing in the Office and authorize greater flexibility in the level of staffing.

Furthermore, funds for staffing should be made available preceding the beginning of the session to enable the President-elect to bring on board team members a number of weeks earlier. In addition, the Chef de Cabinet suggested that the regular budget allocation be increased to reduce the inequity between Presidents who come from developed countries and Presidents who come from developing countries. Lastly, he suggested that consideration be given to bringing forward the opening of the session by several weeks without adjusting the timing of the general debate to allow the incoming President more time to prepare.

54. The Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management briefed the Working Group on the support provided by the Secretariat to the Office of the President of the General Assembly, which covered the staffing, sources of funding and the regular Secretariat support available to the Office. As to staffing, the Department covered the expenses for five staff members (2 D-2, 1 D-1, 1 P-5 and 1 General Service) in the Office and provided direct support by means of three Professional posts from within the Department. In addition, and also from within its own resources, the Department made available two General Service staff members, who were located in the Office, as well as translators and text processors as needed. The Department of Management provided a car and driver for official purposes, as well as office space, including transitional office space during the three-month transition period. The Department of Safety and Security provided a detail of two Security Officers, including during travel. A spokesperson was provided by the Department of Public Information, and legal guidance was provided by the Office of Legal Affairs on an as-needed basis. Turning to funding, the regular budget allocation amounted to approximately $322,000 per session. In the light of the static nature of the funding, a trust fund had been created in 2010, the importance of which had been stressed by Member States in past General Assembly resolutions. Contributions were usually earmarked either for specific purposes, that is, in support of specific meetings, or for general administrative, logistical and management support, and were associated with a specific session. In its resolutions 70/247 and 70/305, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit proposals to review the budget allocation to the Office of the President in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019. In response to that request, and in the light of the current financial situation, the Secretariat sought to increase substantive support to the Office of the President while maintaining the current level of funding allocated to the Office. Consequently, an additional post at the P-5 level in support of the Office would be reflected in the 2018-2019 programme budget proposals, in addition to the allocation of resources for handover and overlap costs for a limited duration of one month during the transition period, in order to maximize the use of the transition period for incoming Presidents.

55. The Office of the President of the General Assembly also received a wide range of secretariat, technical, procedural and substantive support from the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management. In response to resolutions 59/313 and 66/294, the Protocol and Liaison Service provided "on request" services to the President for official functions. In particular, for the past two years, the Protocol and Liaison Service had made available a dedicated Protocol Officer to the President to cover requirements during the high-level week in September. For the remainder of the year, the Service responded to the ad hoc requirements using existing resources. To facilitate the transition between sessions, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management assumed the lead role within the Secretariat in putting together an induction programme beginning with the President-elect of the seventy-first session, and looked forward to continuing that practice.

56. In a question-and-answer session, two groups touched upon the question of civil society participation in the work of the General Assembly, which had been raised by the President of the General Assembly in his address at a previous meeting of the Working Group. While one of the groups was in favour of the Working Group examining the issue to find a comprehensive solution to the question of the participation of non-governmental organizations that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, the other cautioned that the intergovernmental character of the Assembly needed to be preserved and that any discussion should be based on Member States' views and positions.

57. In the following debate, Member States welcomed the improvements made in enhancing the accountability and transparency of the Office of the President of the General Assembly and in strengthening the institutional memory of the Office. At the same time, several speakers were of the view that the Office needed to be further strengthened, in particular through the allocation of adequate budgetary resources, pointing out that the existing resource allocation had remained unchanged for many years. Other delegations, on the other hand, cautioned that any new measures needed to be cost-neutral and strictly respect the role of the Fifth Committee. It was also argued that the workload of the General Assembly could be alleviated by clustering, biennializing and triennializing items on its agenda.

58. A number of delegations touched upon, and tentatively supported, the possibility of moving the election of the President of the General Assembly to an earlier date to facilitate preparation. Furthermore, some believed that the convening of informal dialogues with future candidates for the position of President should be institutionalized through a mandate from the General Assembly. Several speakers also wished to institutionalize recent measures, such as the preparation of a handover report from one session to the next or the convening of an induction programme. Speakers also called for measures to be taken to ensure that the archives and records of the Office of the President would be maintained and made accessible to future Presidents. Welcoming the convening by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of an induction programme for the President-elect of the seventy-first session, one delegation suggested that any such programme should include an overview of ongoing and continuing intergovernmental processes, with an indication of follow-up actions that needed to be taken.

59. The importance of ensuring the gender balance of staff in the Office of the President of the General Assembly was underscored, while the gender imbalance among past Presidents was highlighted.

60. In closing, the Co-Chairs summed up the debate by noting that it was the final thematic debate and inviting all delegations to raise any outstanding issues for further discussion at an informal meeting scheduled for 15 May 2017.

III. Conclusion

61. In accordance with its mandate, the Working Group endeavoured to identify key issues of concern and possible consensus, to examine the current status of implementation of those issues, and either to take action or to indicate possible further action to be taken.

62. At its final meeting, held on 30 August 2017, the Working Group considered and adopted the present report, including the draft resolution contained in section IV below (see para. 64). Preceding the adoption of the draft resolution, one group of States recalled the importance it attached to the following issues that had been

discussed as part of the negotiations: (a) stressing the importance of respecting Article 12 of the Charter; (b) ensuring that conference-servicing resources at United Nations Headquarters are not used to target Member States; (c) continuing consultations on the process of the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General, including the desirability for the Security Council to provide a plural number of candidates to the General Assembly; (d) conducting the appointment of the Secretary-General in the General Assembly by secret ballot to be decided by a simple majority of the members of that body present and voting; and (e) provision of a briefing by the Secretariat on the gender balance and regional origin of staff at all Professional levels.

IV. Recommendation

63. On the basis of a draft resolution circulated by the Co-Chairs, the Working Group formulated the resolution set out below.

64. At its final meeting, on 30 August 2017, the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly concluded its work for the seventy-first session. The Working Group recommended that the Assembly adopt the following draft resolution:

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/305 of 13 September 2016 and all other previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,[1]

Acknowledging that resolution 70/305 constitutes an important landmark for the strengthening of the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly as established by the Charter of the United Nations, in particular regarding the strengthening of the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly,

Mindful of the milestone achievements in the course of 2015, in particular the adoption by the General Assembly of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[2] and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[3] as well as the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[4]

Underlining the need to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly,

Reiterating that the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly is a critical component of the overall reform of the United Nations,

Emphasizing the need to align the agenda of the General Assembly in full support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

Recognizing the role of the General Assembly in addressing issues of peace and security, in accordance with the Charter, and acknowledging its role and authority, established in Article 10 of the Charter, to make recommendations to the Members of the United Nations or to the Security Council or to both, on questions or matters within the scope of the Charter, except as provided in Article 12 thereof,

Reaffirming the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, as well as the role of the Assembly in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law,

Reaffirming also the role and authority of the General Assembly in global matters of concern to the international community, including in global governance, as set out in the Charter,

Mindful that we have yet to achieve full gender and geographical balance within the United Nations, while welcoming the ongoing intergovernmental efforts in this regard, and convinced of the need to guarantee equal opportunities for women and men from all regional groups in their access to senior decision-making positions, including to the post of Secretary-General, bearing in mind the need to secure the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity,

Welcoming the conclusion of the process of selection and appointment of the ninth Secretary-General, which was characterized by an enhanced degree of transparency, accountability and inclusivity, in accordance with resolutions 69/321 of 11 September 2015 and 70/305,

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[1] Resolutions 46/77, 47/233, 48/264, 51/241, 52/163, 55/14, 55/285, 56/509, 57/300, 57/301, 58/126, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286, 61/292, 62/276, 63/309, 64/301, 65/315, 66/294, 67/297, 68/307 and 69/321.

[2] Resolution 70/1.

[3] Resolution 69313, annex.

[4] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

Welcoming also the fact that women constituted more than half of all of the candidates for Secretary-General presented by Member States in accordance with resolution 69/321, and emphasizing the need to strive for gender balance in the selection of other executive heads;

Affirming that the work of the President of the General Assembly and of the Office of the President of the General Assembly shall be guided by the principles of universality, objectivity, non-selectivity, constructive international dialogue and cooperation,

Welcoming the efforts of the President of the General Assembly to reinvigorate the revitalization of the work of the Assembly during its seventy-first session,

Taking note of the observations and proposals on improving the working methods of the Main Committees of the General Assembly made by the Chairs of the Main Committees at the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly thematic meeting on working methods held on 28 March 2017,[5]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly and the updated inventory of Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed thereto;[5]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the multilingual web page devoted to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, accessible directly from the United Nations website, which exists in all six official languages, and invites the Secretariat to continue updating regularly and equally that web page and its substantive content in a cost-effective manner;

3. *Decides* to establish, at its seventy-second session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, open to all Member States:

(a) To identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on the progress achieved in past sessions as well as on previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation;

(b) To submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-second session;

4. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall continue its review of the inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the seventy-first session and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report to be submitted at the seventy-second session of the Assembly;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[6] and requests the Secretary-General to submit an update on the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on revitalization addressed to the Secretariat for implementation that have not been implemented, with an indication of the constraints and reasons behind any lack of implementation, for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-second session;

[5] See A/71/1007.
[6] A/71/780.

Role and authority of the General Assembly

6. *Reaffirms* the role and authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter;

7. *Recognizes* that implementation of General Assembly resolutions, including those related to the revitalization of its work, enhances the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, and underlines the important role and responsibility of Member States in their full implementation;

8. *Reaffirms* that the relationship between the principal organs of the United Nations is mutually reinforcing and complementary, in accordance with and with full respect for their respective functions, authority, powers and competencies as enshrined in the Charter, as demonstrated through the joint activity of the Presidents of the Security Council and the General Assembly in the process of the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General during the seventieth and seventy-first sessions, and in this regard stresses the importance of further ensuring increased cooperation, coordination and the exchange of information among the Presidents of the principal organs and also with the Secretariat, in particular the Secretary-General;

9. *Recalls* the practice of holding periodic informal briefings by the Secretary-General on his priorities, travels and most recent activities, including his participation in international meetings and events organized outside the United Nations, and invites the Secretary-General to continue this practice;

10. *Welcomes* the establishment of an interactive and comprehensive dialogue between the Permanent Missions and the Secretariat, as mandated in resolution 70/305, aimed at improving the work of the Secretariat in its interaction with the Permanent Missions, and requests the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group to continue to convene the interactive dialogue within the framework of the Ad Hoc Working Group, aimed at:

(a) Identifying issues in the interaction of the Secretariat with the Permanent Missions;

(b) Identifying solutions in better meeting the needs and requirements of the Permanent Missions regarding standard operating procedures used at the United Nations Headquarters in New York;

11. *Decides* that thematic dialogues shall be held periodically during the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group, and also decides to review this arrangement at the seventy-third session of the General Assembly;

12. *Requests* the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group to circulate to Member States and the Secretariat the issues raised during the official meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group in order to receive written feedback from the Secretariat on concerns raised by the Permanent Missions, and also requests the Co-Chairs to circulate a written summary of the interactive and comprehensive dialogues;

13. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the active participation by the Secretariat during the seventy-first session, and in particular:

(a) Notes with appreciation the creation of a focal point in the Department of Management with the objective of facilitating the interaction between Permanent Missions and the Secretariat;

(b) Calls for swift implementation of the "one-stop-shop" arrangement within the Secretariat to provide a single entry point for requesting meetings services, with a self-service interface that will enhance coordination among service providers at United Nations Headquarters in New York, while encouraging the Secretariat to make similar arrangements for other services provided;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance and benefit of continuing interaction between the General Assembly and international or regional forums and organizations dealing with global matters of concern to the international community, as well as with civil society, where appropriate, and encourages the exploration of appropriate actions or measures, while fully respecting the intergovernmental nature of the Assembly, in conformity with its relevant rules of procedure;

15. *Recognizes* the value of holding interactive inclusive thematic debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community, and calls upon the President of the General Assembly to organize such debates in close consultation with the General Committee and the Member States, including with regard to the frequency and preliminary programme of such debates, in order to enable an adequate level of participation and an appropriate allocation of time for substantive interactive discussion during the debates so as to enable all interested delegations to state their positions and to facilitate, where appropriate, results-oriented and productive outcomes of such debates, and in this context welcomes the initiative of the President of the Assembly at its seventy-first session to select "The Sustainable Development Goals: a universal push to transform our world" as the theme of the general debate;

16. *Requests*, in this regard, the President of the General Assembly to limit high-level meetings to current issues of critical importance to the international community, with the interest of the wider membership in mind and with a focus on the most vulnerable, while encouraging the allocation of events of a strictly sectoral or thematic nature to the six Main Committees;

17. *Commends* improvements in the quality of the annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, including as presented in the note by the President of the Council,[7] and welcomes the willingness of the Council to continue to consider other suggestions concerning improvements to the annual report;

18. *Invites* the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, while carrying out its activities, as mandated by the General Assembly, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the Assembly and to enhance world public and media awareness of the contribution made by the Assembly to the fulfilment of the goals of the Organization, as set out in the Charter;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, under relevant agenda items, to bring to the attention of the Member States constraints that have prevented the Secretary-General from implementing those provisions of General Assembly resolutions that are addressed to the Secretariat;

Working methods

20. *Reaffirms* existing relevant mandates related to the improvement of the working methods of the Main Committees, including section C of the annex to resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004, paragraphs 7 to 13 of resolution 59/313 of

[7] S/2015/944.

12 September 2005, cluster III of the annex to resolution 60/286 of 8 September 2006 and resolution 69/321, in particular paragraphs 16 and 17 thereof;

21. *Requests* each Main Committee to further discuss its working methods at the beginning of every session, and in this regard invites the Chairs of the Main Committees to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group during the seventy-second session on any best practices and lessons learned with a view to improving working methods, as appropriate;

22. *Recalls* section C, paragraph 3, of the annex to its resolution 58/316, requests the Chairs of the Main Committees to organize handover meetings of the outgoing and incoming bureaux to exchange views on outcomes and the upcoming agenda, and invites the Chairs of the Main Committees to present a report to their successors on best practices and lessons learned;

23. *Invites* the President-elect of the General Assembly to meet with the incoming members of the General Committee before the beginning of the regular session in order to review the proposed programme of work of the Main Committees, with a view to increasing their efficiency and improving complementarity;

24. *Calls* for the six Chairs of the Main Committees to meet periodically during the General Assembly session to share best practices and increase the coherence and complementarity of the work of the Main Committees;

25. *Welcomes* efforts to afford elected members of the Security Council appropriate opportunities to prepare for their tenure, and also welcomes the note by the President of the Security Council in which the elected Security Council members are invited to observe some of its meetings and activities as from 1 October immediately preceding their term of membership;[8]

26. *Emphasizes* that the General Assembly and its Main Committees, at the seventy-second session, in consultation with Member States, should continue their consideration of and make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items on the agenda of the Assembly, including through the introduction of a sunset clause, with the clear consent of the sponsoring State or States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group;

27. *Recalls* its resolution 48/264 of 29 July 1994, by which it adopted the Guidelines on the Rationalization of the Agenda of the General Assembly;

28. *Also recalls* the need to enhance synergies and coherence and reduce overlap where it is found to exist in the agendas of the General Assembly, especially of its Second and Third Committees, the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, and the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council and the Assembly, as well as all other related forums, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and in the light of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2] and calls for the continuation of such efforts during the seventy-second session of the Assembly;

29. *Requests* the General Committee, while exercising its functions under rule 40 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to pay special attention to reduction of such overlap;

30. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-second session to identify proposals, through consultations with all Member States and the

[8] S/2016/619.

President of the Economic and Social Council, as well as through the convening of the General Committee, aimed at addressing gaps and duplication in the agenda of the Assembly as they relate to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account the report on the strategic alignment of future sessions of the General Assembly and other relevant inputs, for the consideration of Member States during the seventy-third session of the Assembly;

31. *Recalls* rules 153 and 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and encourages the Chairs of the Main Committees and the Secretary-General to ensure observance of these rules, within their respective mandates;

32. *Also recalls* rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and calls for strict adherence by each speaker to the time limits in the Assembly, where applicable, and in particular during the general debate, the high-level meetings of the Assembly and the high-level thematic debates convened by the President of the General Assembly;

33. *Invites* the Chairs of meetings of the General Assembly and United Nations conferences, especially when there is very limited time available for debate, to consider recommending the "all protocol observed" principle, whereby participants are encouraged to refrain from listing standard protocol expressions during their statements;

34. *Decides* to continue to consider ways to rationalize the number of side events held during the high-level segment of the general debate, bearing in mind the need to enhance its decorum and significance, and encourages the scheduling of side events at United Nations Headquarters outside of the hours when the general debate is being held;

35. *Requests* the Secretariat to provide a tool to allow Member States and the United Nations system to upload and publish information about side events organized by them at United Nations Headquarters throughout the year;

36. *Decides* that the general debate and the thematic meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group shall be webcast;

37. *Recalls* its resolutions 1898 (XVIII) of 11 November 1963, 2837 (XXVI) of 17 December 1971, 45/45 of 28 November 1990, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 58/126 of 19 December 2003 and 58/316, and calls upon the President of the General Assembly to make full use of the General Committee throughout the session, with a view to reviewing the programme of work of the Assembly and its Main Committees, in line with rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

38. *Reiterates* its invitation to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the Chairs of the Main Committees, in consultation with the General Committee and Member States, to enhance the coordination of the scheduling of the meetings of the Assembly, including high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates, with a view to optimizing their interactivity, effectiveness and distribution throughout the session, and to consider ways to decrease the number of high-level events held during the general debate;

39. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in order to enhance transparency, to attach the list of speakers at high-level thematic debates organized by the President to the summary of those events;

40. *Encourages* the scheduling of future high-level meetings during the first half of the year, from within existing resources, taking into account the calendar of conferences and without prejudice to the current practice of convening one high-level meeting in September at the beginning of each session of the Assembly;

41. *Decides* that, with sufficient time before the opening of each regular or special session of the General Assembly, the Secretariat, in particular its protocol and security services, shall hold discussions with all Member States on all aspects related to the organization of the high-level segment of the general debate and any other activities that may have special organizational requirements;

42. *Also decides* that, with due consideration given to accessibility issues, in all plenary meetings of the General Assembly, including plenary meetings of high-level events, the seating arrangement of Member States shall follow English alphabetical order, beginning with the name of the country selected by lot each year and avoiding distinctions between Member States as to the rank of the head of delegation;

43. *Recalls* the interim arrangement approved by the General Assembly in decision 68/505 of 1 October 2013, recommending a pattern for the rotation of the Chairs of the Main Committees until the seventy-third session of the Assembly, reiterates its request that the Ad Hoc Working Group prepare long-term arrangements concerning the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees with the aim of establishing a predictable, transparent and fair mechanism, in consultation with regional groups, and that it submit them to the Assembly no later than at its seventy-second session, and in this regard reiterates its invitation to Member States to present proposals and to devote early attention to the matter of concluding a future arrangement, which would come into effect at the seventy-fourth session of the Assembly, with the annex to resolution 68/307 of 10 September 2014 containing the guidelines on the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees to be considered in this context;

44. *Encourages* Member States to seek gender balance in the distribution of the Chairs and bureau members of the Main Committees as well as the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly, where applicable;

45. *Decides* that, during the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, the Ad Hoc Working Group shall start to consider the potential concept and scope of a code of conduct to guide the conduct of election campaigns by Member States, with a view to improving the standards of transparency, accountability and equity;

46. *Also decides* to amend rule 92 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly by deleting its second sentence;

47. *Further decides* that the names of candidates for election by the General Assembly or by the Main Committees shall be communicated to the Secretariat, where possible, at least 48 hours prior to an election unless otherwise required by specific rules governing the elections concerned, and that those names shall be printed on the ballot papers, while additional space shall be provided on the ballot paper for inscribing other names, where applicable;

48. *Decides* that on the day of election in the General Assembly or in the Main Committees the campaign materials distributed in the General Assembly Hall or in the Committee meeting room shall be limited to a single page of information regarding the candidates, with a view to preserving the decorum of the Assembly;

49. *Encourages* Member States to make, to the extent possible, full use of the e-services provided by the Secretariat, in order to save costs and reduce the environmental impact and improve the distribution of documents, and, in this regard, requests the Secretariat to further improve, harmonize and, where appropriate, unify such services, including by making available all the official correspondence of the United Nations addressed to the Member States;

50. *Requests* the Secretariat to explore ways to provide real-time updates with respect to the cancellation and postponement of meetings, as currently provided on the screens at United Nations Headquarters, through a user-friendly application for electronic devices and to present possible options to the Ad Hoc Working Group during the seventy-second session of the General Assembly;

51. *Takes note with appreciation* of the cost-neutral proposals on the possible changes to the format, production and editing of the *Journal of the United Nations*, including the streamlining and digitalization of its content with a user-friendly interface, presented by the Under-Secretary General for General Assembly and Conference Management at the second thematic meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group, and in this regard decides that during the calendar year 2018, official meetings of the day, forthcoming official meetings and summaries of official meetings shall be published in the *Journal* in all six official languages;

52. *Decides* that during the calendar year 2018 all other meetings and information, contained in the remaining part of the current version of the *Journal*, shall be published in the languages currently used from January to August;

53. *Calls upon* all relevant intergovernmental bodies to review the need for and content of the *Journal* summaries of their meetings and other announcements, and to take the steps necessary with a view to ensuring a more streamlined format for the *Journal* of the United Nations;

54. *Reiterates* the need to produce the *Journal* in all six official languages in strict compliance with rule 55 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and decides that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall review the implementation of the decisions of the Assembly on the format, production and editing of the *Journal* during the seventy-second session, starting in March 2018;

55. *Requests* the Secretary-General to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group, on a yearly basis, on the progress achieved on the gradual extension, in a cost-neutral manner, of the information in the *Journal* of the United Nations published in the six official languages;

Selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

56. *Commends* the Presidents of the General Assembly at its seventieth and seventy-first sessions for their active contribution to the implementation of provisions guiding the selection and appointment of the ninth Secretary-General, as contained in resolutions 69/321 and 70/305;

57. *Reiterates* that the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General differs from the process used with regard to the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system, given the roles of the Security Council and the General Assembly in accordance with Article 97 of the Charter, and emphasizes in particular that the process of selection of the Secretary-General is guided by the principles of transparency and inclusiveness, building on the best practices and the participation of all Member States;

58. *Stresses*, in particular, the need to ensure the appointment of the best possible candidate for the post of Secretary-General, who embodies the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity and who demonstrates a firm commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, proven leadership and managerial abilities, extensive experience in international relations and strong diplomatic, communication and multilingual skills;

59. *Reaffirms its commitment* to continue, in the Ad Hoc Working Group, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, its thorough

consideration of the issues under the third thematic cluster of the Working Group, on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, including the examination of innovative ways to improve the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General and other executive heads in all its aspects, and recalls all relevant resolutions, including resolutions 11(I) of 24 January 1946, 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 47/233 of 17 August 1993, 48/264, 51/241, 52/163 of 15 December 1997, 55/14 of 3 November 2000, 55/285 of 7 September 2001, 56/509 of 8 July 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 57/301, 58/126, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286, 61/292 of 2 August 2007, 62/276 of 15 September 2008, 63/309 of 14 September 2009, 64/301 of 13 September 2010, 65/315 of 12 September 2011, 66/294 of 17 September 2012, 67/297 of 29 August 2013, 68/307, 69/321 and 70/305, reaffirming the applicable procedures set out in the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in particular rule 141, and acknowledging existing relevant practices of the Assembly;

60. *Calls upon* the President of the General Assembly to monitor and review the implementation by the Assembly of these resolutions;

61. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General towards achieving equal and fair distribution in terms of the gender and geographical balance of the executive heads of the United Nations system and the Senior Management Group of the Organization, while securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and requests that further effective measures be taken in this regard;

62. *Recalls* its resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, in particular paragraph 2 thereof, in which it notes that the Secretary-General will appoint the Deputy Secretary-General following consultations with Member States, and stresses that the process of appointments to senior posts by the Secretary-General within the Organization should be inclusive and transparent, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and as set out in the Charter;

63. *Stresses* the need to ensure equal and fair distribution based on gender balance and as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard recalls its resolutions 46/232 of 2 March 1992 and 51/241, adopted without a vote, which contain the principles that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity are the paramount considerations in the recruitment and performance of international civil servants and that, as a general rule, there should be no monopoly on senior posts in the United Nations system by nationals of any State or group of States;

64. *Reiterates* its request that the Secretary-General continue his ongoing efforts to ensure the attainment of equitable geographical distribution and gender balance in the Secretariat, while recalling its resolution 71/263 of 23 December 2016, in particular the paragraphs thereof related to equitable geographical distribution and gender balance;

65. *Requests* the Office of Human Resources Management to provide a briefing to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the General Assembly during the seventy-second session of the Assembly on the gender balance and regional origin of the executive heads of the United Nations system and the Senior Management Group of the Organization;

Strengthening the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

66. *Commends* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session for strengthening the transparency and inclusivity of his Office, including through the increased and creative use of online facilities, and for providing a

financial disclosure upon assumption of office and releasing detailed information on the finances and contributions to his Office and details on the official travel, substantive activities, staffing and activities of his Office, as mandated in resolution 70/305 and looks forward to an end-of-term report on these matters, and requests future Presidents of the Assembly to follow these good practices;

67. *Welcomes* the taking of the oath of office and the observation of the code of ethics by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, as contained in annexes X and XI of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, thus contributing to increased transparency and accountability of the Office;

68. *Notes with appreciation* the views expressed by the Office of the President of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the strengthening of the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President and its relationship with the Secretariat and the measures already undertaken in this regard, while continuing to explore additional measures where feasible, and notes the support provided by the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat to the Office of the President;

69. *Encourages* the Presidents of the General Assembly to continue the practice of periodically briefing Member States on their activities, including official travel;

70. *Commends* the initiative of convening a retreat on the strengthening of the General Assembly, which brings together the incoming and outgoing presidencies of each session of the Assembly, and in this regard takes note of the summary of the proceedings of the retreat held on 19 July 2016;[9]

71. *Also commends* the steps taken by the Office of the President of the General Assembly, assisted by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, to develop a standardized format for the written handover summary of best practices and lessons learned, welcomes with appreciation the provision of a handover report from the President of the Assembly at its seventieth session to his successor, which was transmitted to all Member States, and requests future Presidents of the Assembly to continue this practice;

72. *Supports* the efforts made thus far in archiving and record-keeping by the Office of the President of the General Assembly, with the assistance of the Archives and Records Management Section of the Department of Management of the Secretariat, and stresses the need to continue to consider methods to effectively preserve the institutional memory of the Office;

73. *Decides*, in full respect of the established principle of geographical rotation and its resolution 33/138 of 19 December 1978, to conduct informal interactive dialogues with candidates for the position of the President of the General Assembly, thus contributing to the transparency and inclusivity of the process, and calls upon candidates to present to the General Assembly their vision statements;

74. *Stresses* the need to promote and ensure gender balance throughout the United Nations system, and in this regard invites Member States to consider presenting women as candidates for the position of President of the General Assembly, and encourages Presidents-elect to continue to ensure respect for balanced gender and geographical representation in the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

[9] See A/71/933.

75. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-second session of the General Assembly on the sources of funding and staffing of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, including on any technical, logistical, protocol-related or financial questions, and for more clarification on the budgetary basis for the provision of such support by the Secretariat;

76. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure, from within agreed resources, that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is allocated dedicated Secretariat staff, with responsibility to, in an efficient and capable manner, coordinate the transition between Presidents, manage interactions between the President and the Secretary-General and preserve institutional memory, welcomes the provision by Member States of staff from their respective permanent missions to be seconded to the Office of the President, and encourages the continuation of this existing good practice;

77. *Recalls* its request to the Secretary-General and its invitation to the heads of specialized agencies, funds and programmes, upon request by the President of the General Assembly, to consider seconding staff to work in the Office of the President of the General Assembly on a more systematic basis;

78. *Notes* that the activities of the President of the General Assembly have increased markedly in recent years, recalls provisions regarding support for the Office of the President of the General Assembly in previous resolutions, and expresses continued interest in seeking ways to further support the Office, in accordance with existing procedures, in particular rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, as well as to continue discussions within the Ad Hoc Working Group on further steps to strengthen the Office;

79. *Recalls* its request that the Secretary-General submit, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, proposals to review the budget allocation of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, in accordance with existing procedures and taking into account the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the issue, and in this connection looks forward to considering such proposals during the main part of its seventy-second session;

80. *Welcomes* the decision by the Secretary-General to make non-staff programme budget resources available to Presidents of the General Assembly from the date of their election;

81. *Stresses* the importance of the contributions of Member States to the trust fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and in this regard notes with appreciation the contributions that have been made to the fund, and encourages Member States to continue to contribute to the fund and to allow for unspent contributions from previous sessions to be made available for succeeding terms;

82. *Welcomes* the establishment of the practice of vetting all contributions from sources other than Member States through the Ethics Office, and urges adherence to this practice;

83. *Reiterates* its call for non-in-kind contributions to be channelled through the trust fund, and welcomes the steps taken in this regard by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session;

84. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-second session of the Assembly on the implementation of all mandates accorded to him or her under the present and previous relevant resolutions.

Annex

Updated inventory chart of General Assembly resolutions on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, issued pursuant to resolution 70/305

Explanatory note by the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly (seventy-first session)

1. In accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 70/305, in which the Assembly decided that the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly should continue its review of the inventory of Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted to the Assembly at its seventieth session (A/70/1003), and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-first session, the Co-Chairs, assisted by the Secretariat, have prepared the updated inventory chart for consideration by Member States.

2. The present inventory chart has been updated to reflect the progress achieved since the adoption of resolution 70/305.

3. The Co-Chairs, assisted by the Secretariat, obtained updated information, where possible, from relevant entities responsible for implementation.

4. The updated inventory chart retains the following two-part structure, which was also utilized in the report submitted at the seventieth session:

(a) The first part contains unimplemented provisions, in order to focus on their follow-up;

(b) The second part contains implemented provisions, both those that required one-time action and those to be implemented on an ongoing basis, in order to keep track of previous achievements and provide the means to compare with and learn from past experience.

5. Thus, in practical terms, the updated inventory chart can continue to provide clear evidence of ongoing progress and signal opportunities for further progress.

6. The inventory chart does not have a definite character and may be amended at any time by Member States through the Ad Hoc Working Group. Furthermore, it is not intended to, and does not, have any legal effect. It should serve only as a tool to facilitate discussions on the follow-up to the implementation of the previous related resolutions.

Part I
Provisions requiring follow-up

Cluster I: role and authority of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A. General provisions related to the role and authority of the General Assembly (See part II)				
B. Provisions related to the election of the President of the General Assembly and members of the General Committee (See also part II)				
1.	70/305, para. 30 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 29; 68/307, para. 22; and 67/297, para. 22	Ad Hoc Working Group to prepare long-term arrangements concerning the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly with the aim of establishing a predictable, transparent and fair mechanism, in consultation with regional groups, and that it submit them to the Assembly no later than at the seventy-second session, and in this regard invites Member States to present proposals and begin at an early stage to devote attention to the matter of concluding a future arrangement, which would come into effect at the seventy-fourth session of the Assembly, with the annex to resolution 68/307 of 10 September 2014 containing the guidelines on the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees to be considered in this context.	Ad Hoc Working Group, regional groups	To be implemented and submitted to the General Assembly no later than at the seventy-second session.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
C. Provisions related to the annual report of the Security Council (See also part II)				
2.	60/286, annex, para. 7 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 2 (d); and 58/126, annex, para. 2	Also invites the Security Council to submit periodically, in accordance with Articles 15 and 24 of the Charter, special subject-oriented reports to the General Assembly for its consideration on issues of current international concern.	Member States (Security Council)	Since the adoption of resolution 60/286 no special subject-oriented reports have been formally submitted to the General Assembly. The special subjects, however, are to some extent covered by the monthly assessments by the Presidents of the Security Council.
D. Provisions related to the annual report of the Economic and Social Council (See part II)				
E. Provisions related to the annual report of the International Court of Justice (See part II)				
F. Provisions related to public relations activities (See part II)				
G. Provisions related to General Assembly cooperation with civil society and others (See part II)				
H. Provisions related to the organization of work (See part II)				
I. Provisions related to interactive/thematic debates (See part II)				
J. Provisions related to the cooperation between the main organs (See part II)				
K. Provisions related to the implementation and follow-up of resolutions (See part II)				

Cluster II: working methods

No	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
A. General provisions related to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (See also part II)				
3.	70/305, para. 33 *Also in*: 68/307, para. 24	Reiterates the need to fully implement and observe rule 55 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, which provides that during the sessions of the Assembly the *Journal of the United Nations* shall be published in the languages of the Assembly, expresses its concern about the lack of implementation of rule 55, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to provide during the seventy-first session of the Assembly innovative proposals on the possible changes to the format, production and editing of the Journal, by reallocating existing resources and economizing on the costs of publishing it.	Secretariat, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	On 28 March 2017, the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management presented innovative proposals in accordance with resolution 70/305 (see the letter from the President of the General Assembly dated 3 April 2017). The Co-Chairs established a Group of Friends of the *Journal* which convened two meetings. Subsequently, consultations continued during the negotiation of the Ad Hoc Working Group's draft resolution, the outcome of which is reflected in paragraphs 51 to 55 of the draft resolution
B. Provisions related to the organization of meetings: Plenary, General Committee, Main Committees (See part II)				
C. Provisions related to the general debate (See part II)				
D. Provisions related to the conduct of business: time limits on speeches (See part II)				
E. Provisions related to modern technologies (See part II)				
F. Provisions related to documentation: resolutions (See also part II)				
4.	60/286, annex, para. 23 *Also in*: 58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 5	Encourages Member States to submit draft resolutions in a more concise, focused and action-oriented form.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States, bearing in mind the sovereign right of Member States to submit proposals in the context of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
G. Provisions related to documentation: consolidation of reports (See part II)				
H. Provisions related to the preparation and issuance of reports (See part II)				
I. Provisions related to the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (See part II)				
J. Provisions related to the agenda of the General Assembly (See part II)				
K. Provisions related to practices and working methods of the Main Committees of the General Assembly (See part II)				
L. Provisions related to the General Committee (See part II)				

Cluster III: selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A. General provisions related to the selection of the Secretary-General (See part II)				
B. Provisions related to the selection process (See part II)				
C. Provisions related to the appointment and duration of the term (See part II)				

Cluster IV: strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A. Provisions related to the financial, logistic and technical support for the President of the General Assembly (See also part II)				
5.	70/305, para. 64 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 54; 68/307, para. 38	Requests the Secretary-General to submit, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, proposals to review the budget allocation of the Office of the President of the General Assembly in accordance with existing procedures and bearing in mind the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General's Task Force on the functioning of the Office of the President, and in this connection looks forward to considering such proposals during the main part of its seventy-second session.	Secretary-General	To be implemented by the Secretary-General in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019.
B. Provisions related to the competencies of the President of the General Assembly (See part II)				

Part II
Provisions that have been implemented or are being implemented on an ongoing basis

Cluster I: role and authority of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A. General provisions related to the role and authority of the General Assembly				
6.	70/305, para. 6 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 6; 68/307, para. 6; 66/294, para. 4; 65/315, para. 4; 64/301, para. 4; 60/286, annex I, para. 1; and 59/313, para. 2 (b)	Reaffirms the role and authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter.	Member States	Ongoing provision. The General Assembly has a number of items on its agenda that fall under the heading "maintenance of international peace and security". Since this provision was first adopted, the tenth emergency special session held its 30th and 31st plenary meetings on 15 December 2006 and its 32nd and 33rd plenary meetings on 15 and 16 January 2009.
7.	70/305, para. 10 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 10	Takes note of the informal meeting on ways and means to further enhance the cooperation between permanent missions and the Secretariat, held on 15 March 2016, as well as of the letter dated 23 March 2016 from the President of the General Assembly transmitting the summary of that meeting, as part of the interaction between the permanent missions and the Secretariat, requests the Secretary-General to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-first session of the Assembly on the follow-up actions taken, and decides in this regard to establish an interactive and	Ad Hoc Working Group	On 15 March 2016, the President of the General Assembly convened an informal meeting to consider ways and means to further enhance the cooperation between permanent missions and the Secretariat, which included briefings from senior managers. A summary of the meeting was transmitted to the Secretary-General and all Member States. At the first thematic meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group during the seventy-first session, on 15 March 2017, senior Secretariat officials briefed the membership on the follow-up actions taken by the Secretariat pursuant to the informal meeting of the General Assembly of 15 March 2016. The meeting included an interactive question-and-answer segment to provide an opportunity for dialogue. In response to the call for a continuation

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		comprehensive dialogue between the permanent missions and the Secretariat within the framework of the Ad Hoc Working Group, aimed at improving the work of the Secretariat in its interaction with the permanent missions.		of the interactive dialogue, on 15 May 2017 the Co-Chairs convened a separate informal meeting dedicated to the interaction between permanent missions and the Secretariat. Subsequently, a note verbale dated 13 July 2017 informed the membership of the establishment of a focal point in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management as the contact person for Member States to express their concerns and/or any other queries they might have. As stated in the note verbale, that contact person would not be in a position to take action on the concerns, but rather would refer the matter to the appropriate department or office for resolution.
B. Provisions related to the election of the President of the General Assembly and members of the General Committee (See also part I)				
8.	70/305, para. 31 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 30	Encourages Members States to seek gender balance in the distribution of Chairs of the Main Committees and in the position of the President of the General Assembly.	Member States	Ongoing provision.
9.	68/307, para. 21	Decides to reiterate the interim arrangement adopted in General Assembly decision 68/505 of 1 October 2013 recommending the pattern for the rotation of the Chairs of the Main Committees for the forthcoming five sessions, namely from the sixty-ninth to seventy-third sessions, as well as the guidelines on the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees contained in the annex to the present resolution.	General Assembly, regional groups	Implemented on an ongoing basis. In its decision 68/505, taken at its 24th plenary meeting on 1 October 2013, the General Assembly, on the proposal of its President, decided to approve an interim arrangement concerning the rotation of the chairs of the Main Committees for the forthcoming five sessions of the Assembly. The elections for the Chairs of the Main Committees for the sixty-ninth to seventy-second sessions were conducted in accordance with this decision. Concerning the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), the General Assembly furthermore adopted decision 69/524 of 5 December 2014 entitled "Rotation of the post of Rapporteur of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for the seventieth to seventy-third sessions of the General Assembly".

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
10.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 9	In accordance with paragraph 2 (a) and (c) of resolution 56/509, the General Assembly elects the President of the Assembly, the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly, and the Chairs of the Main Committees at least three months before the opening of the session in which they will serve. In order to foster better advance planning and preparation of the work of the Main Committees, the full bureaux of the Main Committees shall similarly be elected three months in advance of the next session.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Provision implemented as from the fifty-eighth session. This provision as well as rules 30 and 99 (a) apply to the election of the President of the General Assembly and the Vice-Presidents.
C. Provisions related to the annual report of the Security Council (See also part I)				
11.	69/321, para. 13 *Also in*: 68/307, para. 11; 67/297, para. 10; 66/294, para. 11; 65/315, para. 10; 64/301, para. 9; 60/286, annex, para. 4; and 58/126, annex, para. 3	Takes note of the letter dated 4 December 2014 from the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session addressed to all Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers expressing a variety of views of Member States on the content and quality of the annual report of the Security Council to the Assembly, and encourages continuing efforts to ensure the inclusion in the report of more substantive information on the work of the Council, as appropriate.	Security Council	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The report of the Security Council is being improved in a gradual manner. See the note by the President of the Security Council contained in document S/2015/944. Further to the measures contained in the notes by the President of the Security Council of 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507) and 5 June 2012 (S/2012/402), presidencies may consider organizing interactive informal exchanges of views with the wider membership prior to the adoption of the report. In the 1990s the report was changed to reflect changes in the working methods of the Security Council. Since 2000, further changes have been introduced; inter alia, the introductory part has been added. Since then, the Security Council has focused more on the introduction to the report. In 2006, information on special political missions was added to the report.
12.	60/286, annex, para. 5	In carrying out the assessment of the debate on the annual report of the	President of the General Assembly	Implemented on an ongoing basis. The President of the General Assembly provides opening remarks

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
	Also in: 58/126, annex, para. 4; and 51/241, annex, para. 12	Security Council called for in paragraph 12 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President shall inform the General Assembly of his decision regarding the need for further consideration of the report of the Council, including in respect of the convening of informal consultations, on the need for, and content of, any action by the Assembly based on the debate, as well as on any matters to be brought to the attention of the Council.		and a closing assessment of the debate. At the sixty-ninth session the President of the General Assembly, subsequent to the debate, transmitted to Member States a list of proposals concerning the analytical nature, the presentation of the report and practices, expressed during the debate. See also the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2015/944) which, inter alia, stated that the report to be presented to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session would cover the period from 1 August 2015 to 31 December 2016. Thereafter, the period of coverage for all future reports would be from 1 January to 31 December.
13.	60/286, annex, para. 6 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 2 (e)	Invites the Security Council to update the General Assembly on a regular basis on the steps it has taken or is contemplating with respect to improving its reporting to the Assembly.	Member States, Security Council	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Information on the steps taken by the Security Council is provided during the meetings with the President of the General Assembly as well as included in the monthly assessments by the Presidents of the Security Council. See also the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2015/944).
14.	59/313, para. 2 (c) *Also in*: 59/313, para. 2 (f)	To consider the annual reports as well as special reports of the Security Council, in accordance with Article 15, paragraph 1, and Article 24, paragraph 3, of the Charter, through substantive and interactive debates.	General Assembly	See above.
15.	51/241, annex, para. 11	The agenda item entitled "Report of the Security Council" shall continue to be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly.	General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
16.	51/241, annex, para. 14	The monthly forecast of the programme of work of the Security Council shall be circulated for the information of members of the General Assembly.	Security Council	Implemented on an ongoing basis. Member States are provided with the monthly forecast of the programme of work of the Security Council in hard copies. The programme of work is also uploaded on the website of the Security Council.
17.	51/241, annex, para. 13	The agenda item shall not be closed but shall remain open to enable further discussion as necessary during the year, bearing in mind, inter alia, the submission of additional reports as and when necessary.	Member States (General Assembly)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Since the sixty-second session, the agenda item has remained open at every session.
D. Provisions related to the annual report of the Economic and Social Council				
18.	60/286, annex, para. 8 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 15	Invites the Economic and Social Council to continue to prepare its report to the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 50/227, striving to make it more concise and action-oriented by highlighting the critical areas requiring action by the Assembly and, as appropriate, by making specific recommendations for consideration by the Member States.	Member States (Economic and Social Council)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
E. Provisions related to the annual report of the International Court of Justice				
19.	51/241, annex, para. 16	The report of the International Court of Justice shall continue to be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly. The Assembly shall continue to support the role of the International Court of Justice as the principal judicial organ of the Organization, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The Assembly shall also continue to encourage the progressive development and codification of international law.	General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Since the fifty-second session, the report has continued to be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
F. Provisions related to public relations activities				
20.	70/305, para. 2 *Also in:* 69/321, para. 2; 68/307, para. 2; and 67/297, para. 16	Takes note with appreciation of the multilingual web page devoted to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, accessible directly from the United Nations website, which exists in all six official languages, and invites the Secretariat to continue updating regularly and equally that web page and its substantive content in a cost-effective manner.	Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, Department of Public Information	Implemented. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management periodically provides updated content, in all six official languages, to the Department of Public Information for uploading to the United Nations website.
21.	70/305, para. 14 *Also in:* 69/321, para. 14; 68/307, para. 12	Invites the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, while carrying out its activities, as mandated by the General Assembly, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the Assembly and to enhance world public and media awareness of the contribution made by the Assembly to the fulfilment of the goals of the Organization, as set out in the Charter.	Secretariat, Department of Public Information	The Department of Public Information provides extensive coverage of the work of the General Assembly, its Committees and all major subsidiary bodies through print, online, audio and video news media.
22.	67/297, para. 11 *Also in:* 66/294, para. 22; 65/315, para. 18; 64/301, para. 20; 63/309, para. 8; 60/286, annex, para. 14; and 58/126, annex, para. 8	Encourages the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the General Assembly and to enhance world public and media awareness of its work, and in this regard recalls paragraph 10 of its resolution 67/124 B of 18 December 2012, in which it noted the efforts of the Department to continue to publicize the work and decisions of the General Assembly and requested the Department to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly.	Secretariat	Wire-agency style news stories put out by the United Nations News Centre in the six official languages are a key part of this coverage. The President of the General Assembly is regularly interviewed and featured on the United Nations News Centre and United Nations Radio. The Department of Public Information also provides comprehensive press releases, in English and French, of all meetings of the Assembly, its Main Committees and its subsidiary bodies, which are also included in the daily media alert, and statements made by Member States are made available in print and online form to the press. The annual press kit on the incoming President of the General Assembly is produced in the six official languages as well as in a number of non-official languages.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		Requests the Department of Public Information to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and stresses the importance of further enhancing public and media awareness of the work and decisions of the Assembly, including through their timely issuance and distribution in all official languages.		United Nations Radio, whose general debate coverage includes a series of interviews with visiting officials that are broadcast in different languages, also places links to the text of general debate speeches on its website. United Nations Television and Video provides gavel-to-gavel live feeds to broadcasters around the world of the meetings of the General Assembly, as well as related press conferences. This coverage is also made available on the United Nations webcast platform. In the sixty-seventh session, for the first time, as mandated by the General Assembly, the Department of Public Information provided live and on-demand webcast coverage of all Main Committee meetings. United Nations Photo also provided thorough coverage of the General Assembly during the reporting period, with photos available on the United Nations Photo website. Through social media platforms, the Department of Public Information further communicates information about the work and priorities of the Assembly. These include YouTube, Twitter, Facebook and Sina Weibo. The quarterly *UN Chronicle*, the annual *Yearbook of the United Nations* and *Basic Facts About the United Nations* also contain extensive coverage of the structure and functions of the General Assembly. In addition, the new smartphone educational application "United Nations calendar of observances: making a difference" promotes awareness of and action on important issues before the General Assembly, as well as ways to become involved in related events and links to further information. Through its weekly Thursday briefing programme for the non-governmental community, the Department of Public Information also covers issues before

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
				the General Assembly. Its Creative Community Outreach Initiative has facilitated filming in the General Assembly Hall for television and film productions, and its annual five-week-long training programme for journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition exposes junior and mid-level journalists to the work of the United Nations during the general debate. The Department of Public Information's network of nearly 60 United Nations Information Centres, Services and Offices also continues to carry out numerous public information activities to enhance awareness of the work of the General Assembly. The Centres widely disseminate press kits at each session of the Assembly, which are frequently translated into local languages and disseminated to media representatives, Government officials and civil society. The Department of Public Information further enhanced public and media awareness of the work and decisions of the General Assembly by disseminating messages from the Spokesperson of the President of the General Assembly to field duty stations. United Nation Information Centres also provide media and communication support to the President of the General Assembly during official visits to the countries where they are located. The Department of Public Information regularly seconds a staff member at the Professional level to serve as the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. In addition, the Committee on Information continues to consider ways and means to enhance the visibility of the work of the General Assembly, including through the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
23.	66/294, para. 14 *Also in*: 60/286, annex, para. 15	Urges the Secretariat to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the General Assembly, reaffirms paragraph 15 of resolution 60/286, and decides that the announcements about the work of the principal organs of the United Nations should appear in the *Journal of the United Nations* in the order stipulated in Article 7 of the Charter.	Secretariat	Implemented on an ongoing basis. Pursuant to resolutions 60/286 and 66/294 the items in the *Journal of the United Nations* have been rearranged including with announcements about the work of the principal organs of the United Nations appearing in the order stipulated in Article 7 of the Charter. In an effort to raise the visibility of the General Assembly, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management periodically briefs the media on the programme of work of the General Assembly. See also Department of Public Information's activities above.
24.	60/286, annex, para. 16	Encourages the Presidents of the General Assembly to increase their public visibility, including through enhanced contacts with representatives of the media and civil society, thus promoting the activities of the Assembly, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue the practice of providing to the Office of the President of the Assembly a Spokesperson for the President of the Assembly and an assistant to the Spokesperson.	President of the General Assembly, Secretary-General	Ongoing provision. Since the sixtieth session, for example, the Presidents of the General Assembly, together with the Chairs of the Main Committees, have periodically briefed representatives of civil society on the programme of work of the Assembly at its current session (see also A/61/483, p. 20 and A/62/608, p. 15). As indicated above, the Department of Public Information regularly seconds a staff member at the Professional level to serve as the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly, in addition to providing support to the President and his Office by a number of other means.
G. Provisions related to the General Assembly cooperation with civil society and others				
25.	70/305, para. 11 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 11; 68/307, para. 9; and 60/286, annex, para. 12	Reaffirms the importance and benefit of continuing interaction between the General Assembly and international or regional forums and organizations dealing with global matters of concern to the international community, as well as with civil society, where appropriate, and encourages the exploration of appropriate actions or measures, while fully respecting the intergovernmental nature of the Assembly, in conformity	General Assembly	Ongoing provision. For example, informal interactive hearings with civil society take place within the framework of the preparations for high-level meetings of the General Assembly, in accordance with the respectively applicable modalities resolutions. The General Assembly also periodically hears briefings by the current chair of the Group of 20 on their recent activities. Since the sixtieth session the Presidents of the General Assembly, together with the Chairs of the Main Committees, have periodically

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		with its relevant rules of procedure.		briefed representatives of civil society on the programme of work of the Assembly at its current session (A/61/483, p. 20, and A/62/608, p. 15). Such interaction is also provided for through the interactive thematic debates convened by the President of the General Assembly at every session.
26.	60/286, annex, para. 13	Also encourages, where appropriate, continued cooperation between the General Assembly and national and regional parliaments, particularly through the Inter-Parliamentary Union.	General Assembly	Provision has been implemented on an ongoing basis. Numerous meetings have been held between the President of the General Assembly and visiting parliamentarians. The Inter-Parliamentary Union also participates as an observer in the General Assembly.
H. Provisions related to the organization of work				
27.	55/285, annex, para. 19 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 28	In order to implement fully paragraph 28 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President of the General Assembly is encouraged to make greater use of facilitators, where appropriate.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
28.	51/241, annex, para. 27	The General Assembly is the highest political body with universal membership of the Organization. Consideration of agenda items directly in plenary meetings shall be reserved for urgent issues or issues of major political importance, bearing in mind paragraphs 1 and 2 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 48/264.	General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
29.	51/241, annex, para. 28	The President of the General Assembly, with a view to ensuring that there is a systematic and transparent process for participation by delegations in discussions on action to be taken on items considered directly in plenary meetings, shall assess the debate in plenary meetings.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Usually, the President of the General Assembly provides his assessment of the debates in plenary meetings whenever items considered are of particular importance or special interest to Member States.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
30.	51/241, annex, para. 29	The Secretariat shall ensure, in consultation with the President, that priority is accorded to the availability of a meeting room and services to facilitate these consultations.	Secretary-General	Provision is being implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat.
I. Provisions related to interactive/thematic debates				
31.	70/305, para. 12 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 12; 68/307, para. 10; 67/297, para. 7; 66/294, para. 7; 65/315, para. 6; 64/301, para. 5; 60/286, annex, para. 3; 59/313, para. 3 (a); 58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 3; 59/313, para. 12	Recognizes the value of holding interactive inclusive thematic debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community, and calls upon the President of the General Assembly to organize such debates in close consultation with the General Committee and the Member States, including with regard to the preliminary programme of such debates, in order to enable an adequate level of participation and an appropriate allocation of time for substantive interactive discussion during the debates so as to enable all interested delegations to state their positions and to facilitate, where appropriate, results-oriented and productive outcomes of such debates [...].	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Presidents of the General Assembly regularly make a preliminary announcement of their intention to convene interactive thematic debates, including in their acceptance speech when elected. Subsequently, they inform Member States by letter of the format and agenda of forthcoming thematic debates whose outcomes are posted on the website of the President of the Assembly. For a list of thematic debates convened during each session, please refer to the websites of the Presidents of the General Assembly.
J. Provisions related to the cooperation between the main organs				
32.	70/305, para. 8 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 8; 68/307, para. 8; 66/294, para. 10; 65/315, para. 9; 64/301, paras. 7 and 8; 60/286, annex, para. 2; 58/126, annex, para. 6; 55/285, annex, para. 21; and 51/241, annex, para. 43	Reaffirms that the relationship between the principal organs of the United Nations is mutually reinforcing and complementary, in accordance with and with full respect for their respective functions, authority, powers and competencies as enshrined in the Charter, as demonstrated through the joint activity of the Presidents of the Security Council and the General Assembly in the process of the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General during the seventieth session, and in	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		this regard stresses the importance of further ensuring increased cooperation, coordination and the exchange of information among the Presidents of the principal organs and also with the Secretariat of the United Nations, in particular the Secretary-General.		
33.	58/126, annex, para. 5	The President of the General Assembly should continue to be briefed regularly by the President of the Security Council on the work of the Council. The President of the Assembly may wish to inform Member States about the substantive issues raised during these meetings.	President of the Security Council, President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council are meeting at monthly intervals.
K. Provisions related to the implementation and follow-up of resolutions				
34.	70/305, para. 4 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 4; 68/307, para. 4; 67/297, para. 3; 66/294, para. 3; 65/315, para. 3; and 64/301, para. 3	Also decides that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall continue its review of the inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the seventieth session of the Assembly,[1] and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report at the seventy-first session.	General Assembly (Ad Hoc Working Group)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Pursuant to resolution 70/305, the Ad Hoc Working Group had before it an updated version of the inventory.
35.	70/305, para. 5 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 5; 68/307, para. 5; 67/297, para. 3; 66/294, para. 3; 65/315, para. 3; and 64/301, para. 3	Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to submit an update on the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on revitalization addressed to the Secretariat for implementation that have not been implemented, with an indication of the constraints and reasons behind any lack of implementation, for further consideration by the Ad Hoc	Secretary-General	The Secretary-General's report has been issued as document A/71/780.

[1] A/70/1003.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		Working Group at the seventy-first session.		
36.	70/305, para. 15 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 15	Requests the Secretary-General, under relevant agenda items, to bring to the attention of Member States constraints that have prevented the Secretary-General from implementing those provisions of General Assembly resolutions that are addressed to the Secretariat.	Secretary-General	Ongoing provision. The reports of the Secretary-General issued pursuant to intergovernmental mandates reflect on all aspects of their implementation.
37.	59/313, para. 1	Stresses the need to demonstrate political will to ensure the effective implementation of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Provision does not contain request for specific action.
38.	58/126, annex, para. 9	Member States and the Secretariat should consider initiatives that might be taken for better monitoring of the follow-up of resolutions of the General Assembly, such as the provision of timely inputs for reports of the Secretary-General and giving effect to proposals that would advance the follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits.	Member States, Secretary-General	Communications from the Secretary-General have been sent to Member States on an ongoing basis to ask for pertinent information.

Cluster II: working methods

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A. General provisions related to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (See also part I)				
39.	60/286, annex, para. 24 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 14	Requests the Secretary-General to issue the rules of procedure of the General Assembly in a consolidated version in all official languages, in print and online.	Secretary-General	One-time action. The consolidated version of the rules of procedure is set out in document A/520/Rev.18, both in print and online.
40.	60/286, annex, para. 24	Requests the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat to make precedents and past practice available in the public domain with respect to rules and practices of the intergovernmental bodies of the Organization.	Secretary-General, Office of Legal Affairs	Implemented.
B. Provisions related to the organization of meetings: Plenary, General Committee, Main Committees				
41.	70/305, para. 29	Also decides that, with due consideration given to accessibility issues, in all plenary meetings of the General Assembly, including plenary meetings of high-level events, the seating arrangement of Member States shall follow English alphabetical order, beginning with the name of the country selected by lot each year and avoiding distinctions between Member States as to the rank of the head of delegation.	President of the General Assembly, Department for General Assembly and Conference Services	Implemented on an ongoing basis.
42.	70/305, para. 26 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 27; 68/307, para. 18; 67/297, para. 18; 66/294, para. 20; and 65/315, para. 16	Reiterates its invitation to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the Chairs of the Main Committees, in consultation with the General Committee and Member States, to enhance the coordination of the meetings of the Assembly, including high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates, with a view to optimizing their interactivity and effectiveness, especially	Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly, Main Committee Chairs, Member States	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Secretariat takes an active role in providing advice, as requested, in the consultations on modalities for high-level plenary meetings, high-level thematic debates and other events scheduled near the general debate, to ensure optimum scheduling and utilization. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management also regularly briefs Member States on arrangements for the forthcoming general debate and other high-level meetings convened in its vicinity.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		during the general debate, and distribution of such events throughout the session.		Further, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General has adopted an internal mechanism to ensure the coordination of initiatives emanating from departments and offices of the Secretariat, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management regularly briefs senior staff in other Departments on lessons learned and best practices regarding the organization and scheduling of high-level meetings.
43.	70/305, para. 19 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 21; 68/307, para. 17; 67/297, para. 17	Welcomes the holding of elections for non-permanent members of the Security Council and members of the Economic and Social Council about six months before the elected members assume their responsibilities, welcomes the note by the President of the Security Council in which the elected Security Council members are invited to observe some of its meetings and activities as from 1 October immediately preceding their term of membership, and also welcomes such efforts to afford elected members appropriate opportunities to prepare for their tenure in the Security Council.	General Assembly	Implemented for the first time at the seventieth session (elections of members of the Economic and Social Council: 14 June 2016; elections of non-permanent members of the Security Council: 28 June 2016).
44.	70/305, para. 9 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 9; 66/294, para. 9; 65/315, para. 8	Welcomes with appreciation the continued practice of holding periodic informal briefings by the Secretary-General on his priorities, travels and most recent activities, including his participation in international meetings and events organized outside the United Nations, and encourages the continuation of this practice.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Secretary-General periodically briefs Member States in informal plenary meetings of the General Assembly on his priorities, travels and most recent activities.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
45.	70/305, para. 24 *Also in:* 69/321, para. 25	Recalls rules 153 and 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and encourages the Chairs of the Main Committees and the Secretary-General to ensure observance of these rules, within their respective mandates.	Main Committee Chairs, Secretary-General	Ongoing provision.
46.	59/313, para. 11	Strongly urges all officers presiding over meetings of the General Assembly to start such meetings on time.	Secretary-General, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. Periodically, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management provides presiding officers with statistics on the financial impact of the implementation of this provision (A/61/483, p. 19, and A/62/608).
47.	58/316, annex, para. 1 (b)	With effect from the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, the meetings of the plenary Assembly shall normally be held on Mondays and Thursdays.	Secretary-General, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Implemented on an ongoing basis, as far as possible.
48.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 2	The work of the Main Committees of the General Assembly might benefit if it is scheduled over two substantive periods during the session. ... With a view to enabling the Assembly to consider changes in this regard, with effect from the sixtieth session of the Assembly, the Secretary-General is requested to present, by 1 February 2004, various options for consideration by the General Committee, taking into account the requirements of the relevant intergovernmental bodies and the different locations of their meetings and the budget cycle.	Secretary-General	One-time action. In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Options for the rescheduling of the Main Committees of the General Assembly" (A/58/CRP.3), which the Assembly considered at its fifty-eighth session (A/61/483, p. 12, and A/62/608, p. 7).

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
C. Provisions related to the general debate				
49.	70/305, para. 28	Decides that, with sufficient time before the opening of each regular or special session of the General Assembly, the Secretariat, in particular its protocol and security services, shall hold discussions with all Member States on all aspects related to the organization of the high-level segment of the general debate and any other activities that may have special organizational requirements.	Secretariat (Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, Department of Safety and Security)	Implemented on an ongoing basis. The Secretariat regularly briefs Member States on the organizatio aspects of the general debate. It al issues an information note in adva of the annual high-level segment.
50.	70/305, para. 27 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 28; 68/307, para. 19; 57/301, para. 2; para. 3; 51/241, annex, paras. 19 and 20 (a)	Reaffirms, in this regard, resolution 57/301 of 13 March 2003, by which the General Assembly, inter alia, decided that the general debate shall open on the Tuesday following the opening of the regular session of the Assembly and shall be held without interruption, and encourages the scheduling of future high-level meetings during the first half of the year, from within existing resources, taking into account the calendar of conferences and without prejudice to the current practice of convening one high-level meeting in September at the beginning of each session of the Assembly.	Secretary-General, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	High-level thematic debates and high-level debates organized by th President of the General Assembly are normally scheduled during the first half of the year (i.e., during t resumed part of the session).
51.	51/241, annex, para. 20 (b)-(e)	The preparation of the list of speakers for the general debate shall be based on the following principles: (b) Member States shall l invited to indicate three preferences for speaking times; (c) Member States wishing to organize or participate in group meetings during the general debate period shall be encouraged to coordinate	Secretary-General, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. T preparation of the list is based on expressions of preference, traditio and other criteria (e.g., written request by a Member State, level the representation, previous speak slot, gender balance, geographical diversity, etc.).

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		their responses to the request for preferences and to indicate this transparently in their responses; (d) The Secretariat shall be requested to prepare a list of speakers based on existing traditions and expressions of preference to best accommodate Members' needs; (e) The list of speakers for each day shall be completed and no speakers will be rolled over to the next day, notwithstanding the implications for hours of work.		
D. Provisions related to the conduct of business: time limits on speeches				
52.	59/313, para. 10	Decides that time limits on speeches in the plenary Assembly and in the Main Committees shall be applied in accordance with rules 72 and 114 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.	Member States, Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat, the President of the General Assembly and Member States, bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.
53.	59/313, para. 13	Invites Member States that are aligned with statements already made by the chair of a group of Member States, where possible, to focus additional interventions that they make in their national capacity on points that have not already been adequately addressed in the statements of the group in question, bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.
54.	51/241, annex, para. 22	Outside the general debate there shall be a 15-minute time limit in plenary meetings and in the Main Committees.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Provision to be applied by Member States bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
E. Provisions related to modern technologies				
55.	70/305, para. 32 *Also in:* 69/321, para. 31; 68/307, para. 20; 67/297, paras. 20 and 21; 66/294, paras. 15 and 23; and 64/301, para. 19	Also encourages Member States to make, to the extent possible, full use of the e-services provided by the Secretariat, in order to save costs, reduce the environmental impact and improve the distribution of documents, and in this regard requests the Secretariat to further improve, harmonize and, where appropriate, unify such e-services.	Member States	Ongoing provision. All important official communications are transmitted by e-mail and, where delivery is not successful, by fax. As regards United Nations parliamentary documents, these are electronically available through the e-subscription service of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, available from http://undocs.org. Using Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feeds, the latest edition of the *Journal of the United Nations* and parliamentary documents issued daily at Headquarters can be accessed readily on a computer or handheld smart device. Furthermore, the websites of the Main Committees and subsidiary bodies are regularly updated to facilitate rapid, easy access to pre-session, in-session and post-session documents of those bodies. In the Main Committees, delegations are also increasingly making use of the possibility of circulating their statements electronically through Main Committee websites, or Quickplaces, and reading out shorter remarks. In addition, some Main Committees are using those sites to post advance speakers lists and statements of programme budget implications, as well as national statements. At the request of Member States, a number of these sites have now been made operational year-round, rather than during the main part of the session only. Delegate-facing services are increasingly being centralized in the e-deleGATE portal.
56.	70/305, para. 18 *Also in:* 69/321, para. 20	Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to include, in his report to be submitted at the seventy-first session of the General Assembly under the agenda item entitled "Pattern of conferences", information regarding the basis for the current practice	Secretary-General	Implemented. See document A/71/116 (para. 19).

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		whereby Member States bear the additional costs of using United Nations Headquarters conference services during business hours.		
57.	66/294, para. 24 *Also in:* 65/315, para. 19; 64/301, para. 21; 63/309, para. 9; 60/286, annex, para. 28; 59/313, para. 15; and 55/285, annex, para. 24 (a)	Decides that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall remain apprised of options for more time-effective, efficient and secure balloting, reiterating the need to ascertain the credibility, reliability and confidentiality of the balloting process, and requests the Secretariat to submit an update in case of any new technological developments, on the understanding that the adoption of any new balloting system in the future will require a decision of the plenary of the General Assembly.	Secretariat, General Assembly (Ad Hoc Working Group)	The Ad Hoc Working Group receives periodic updates from the Secretariat in case of any new technological developments.
58.	63/309, para. 7	Calls upon Member States to respond to the annual review of the Meetings and Publishing Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management on the distribution of printed documents to Missions, bearing in mind the cost savings, as well as the reduced environmental impact, which may accrue from this exercise, in order to improve the quality and distribution of those documents.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Member States have been responding favourably to the annual review of the Meetings and Publishing Division, resulting in decreased requests for hard copies of parliamentary documents and an increase in the number of requests for e-subscription to digital copies of documents.
59.	55/285, annex, para. 24 (b) and (c)	Taking into account the general support in this regard, the Secretary-General is requested to submit proposals to the General Assembly for its consideration: (b) Wiring of the main conference rooms at Headquarters to provide	Secretary-General	Implemented. The Official Document System is now fully operational. Furthermore, the PaperSmart portal provides electronic access to texts of statements of and reports to Member States and the Secretariat, as well as parliamentary documents in all official languages.

no.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		members of delegations and the Secretariat with access to the Official Document System and other databases of the Organization, as well as to the Internet, together with electronic access to texts of statements and reports and, in the case of reports, simultaneous access to texts in all official languages; (c) Other areas of the work of the Assembly in which the use of modern technology and information technology would contribute to enhancing efficiency in its working methods.		
60.	51/241, annex, para. 45	The Secretary-General is requested to pursue an information technology plan with a range of options to provide all permanent missions to the United Nations and the wider public with online access to documents and relevant United Nations information. Unless the General Assembly decides otherwise, hard copies of documents shall continue to be distributed to permanent missions in accordance with their needs. While welcoming the progress made by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics of the Economic and Social Council, further efforts in this direction could be pursued within a specified time frame to harmonize and improve United Nations information systems. All countries, in particular developing countries, shall be assisted in making full use of this potential access. Adequate provision should be made for training delegates. Facilities for such access by delegations	Secretary-General	Implemented. The Official Document System has been fully operational and accessible. In addition to electronic means, hard copies continue to be distributed to permanent missions as requested. Further, a range of options including online access (in and beyond conference rooms), print-on-demand hard copies, knowledge management and video training is being implemented through PaperSmart. The PaperSmart team is also undertaking further studies and assessments. Regarding the reference to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics of the Economic and Social Council, the last time the Council had before it a report on the matter was in 2011. At that time, the Council took note of said report, but no proposal was submitted to it for consideration. The last time the item was on the agenda was in 2012. No documentation and no proposal were submitted to the Economic and Social Council for consideration.

No	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		within the United Nations premises shall also be expanded as much as possible. Availability of information in this manner should be ensured in all official languages of the United Nations.		
61.	51/241, annex, para. 46	The Secretary-General is encouraged to include information on the impact of technological improvements in his report on the implementation of mandates, by means of comparing outputs with objectives.	Secretary-General	See comments for provisions 59 and 60 above. In addition, recording and assessment of indicators and outputs is currently being undertaken by the PaperSmart team.
F. Provisions related to documentation: resolutions (See also part I)				
62.	66/294, para. 21 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 17	Encourages Member States, United Nations bodies and the Secretariat to continue to consult on the consolidation of documentation in order to avoid duplication of work, to exercise the fullest possible discipline in striving for concise resolutions, reports and other documentation, inter alia, by referring to previous documents rather than repeating actual content, and to focus on key themes.	Member States, Secretariat	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. This issue is frequently examined in a number of intergovernmental bodies.
G. Provisions related to documentation: consolidation of reports				
63.	60/286, annex, para. 29 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 16; 58/316, annex, para. 6 (c); and 58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 7	Requests the Secretary-General to implement further the measures set out in paragraph 20 of resolution 57/300 on the consolidation of reports and in paragraph 6 of the annex to resolution 58/316 on documentation.	Secretary-General	In response to the provision formulated in resolution 57/300, the Secretariat has issued a note entitled "Control and limitation of documentation" (A/58/CRP.7). Since the adoption of this resolution, a number of reports, where appropriate, have been consolidated (A/61/483, p. 21, and A/62/608). The Main Committees regularly examine the issue of consolidation of documentation, particularly when considering their working methods in the context of the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
64.	59/313, para. 16 *Also in*: 58/316, annex, para. 6	In the light of its decision in section B, paragraph 7, of the annex to resolution 58/126 that the heavy volume of documentation that is submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration should be reduced, the Secretary-General is requested: (a) To update the note by the Secretariat, entitled "Control and limitation of documentation" (A/58/CRP.7) in the light of the provisions of the present resolution; (b) To submit the updated version of the note by the Secretariat for the consideration of the General Committee, meeting in open-ended consultations, so that it may make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.	Secretary-General	In response to the provision formulated in resolution 57/300, the Secretariat has issued a note entitled "Control and limitation of documentation" (A/58/CRP.7). The note has not been updated, lacking the endorsement of Member States.
65.	55/285, annex, para. 16	In preparing the annual memorandum concerning the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the secretariat of the Assembly, in consultation with the substantive departments of the Secretariat, should look for synergies and integration of reports.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. The annual memorandum concerning the implementation of the resolutions contains a paragraph on the need for possible integration of reports.
H. Provisions related to the preparation and issuance of reports				
66.	66/294, para. 21 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 18; and 49/221 B, para. 6 (c)	Calls upon Member States, United Nations bodies, and the Secretariat to observe existing submission deadlines so as to allow for the timely processing of documents to be examined by intergovernmental bodies.	Member States, Secretariat	Ongoing provision. In response to this request, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management has entered into a compact with the Secretary-General which provides for zero tolerance of late submission of documents (A/61/483 and A/62/608).
67.	55/285, annex, para. 18	The Secretary-General is requested to make further suggestions as to how to speed up the preparation of	Secretary-General	The Secretary-General continues to make recommendations in his memorandums on organization of the General Assembly, adoption of the

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		reports and to rationalize the scheduling of meetings. The Secretary-General shall keep the President of the General Assembly and the General Committee informed on this issue on a regular basis throughout the sessions of the Assembly.		agenda and allocation of items (see the most recent one, A/BUR/71/1).
68.	59/313, para. 17	Encourages Member States, when seeking additional information, to request that they be provided with the information either orally or, if in writing, in the form of information sheets, annexes, tables and the like, and encourages the wider use of this practice.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States.
69.	55/285, annex, para. 17	Member States and entities of the United Nations system should make a serious effort to submit their replies and inputs to requests for information or views pursuant to resolutions of the General Assembly within the prescribed deadlines.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States.
I. Provisions related to the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization				
70.	55/285, annex, para. 14 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 7	As regards implementation of paragraph 7 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President of the General Assembly, after consideration by the Assembly of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, shall inform the Assembly of his assessment of the debate on the report in order for the Assembly to determine the need for further action.	President of the General Assembly	According to practice, the Secretary-General introduces his report at the beginning of the general debate. Consequently, the President of the General Assembly presents his assessment at the conclusion of the general debate. Any additional assessment by the President is provided after plenary meetings of the General Assembly.
71.	51/241, annex, para. 4	The introduction to the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization should be in the nature of an executive summary highlighting main issues.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented by the Secretariat. The introduction to the report on the work of the Organization is presented in the form of an executive summary highlighting the main issues.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
72.	51/241, annex, para. 5 *Also in*: 55/285, annex, para. 13	The main body of the report shall be comprehensive, informative and analytical in a way that will allow Member States to examine and assess, inter alia, through the debate on the report, the extent to which mandates given by the General Assembly have been fulfilled, as well as to set priorities in the context of the major political, economic and social, administrative and financial issues on its agenda.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented by the Secretariat on an ongoing basis.
73.	51/241, annex, para. 6 *Also in*: 55/285, annex, para. 13	The Secretary-General shall incorporate a forward-looking section in his report on the work of the Organization. It shall describe the specific goals for the Secretariat in the year ahead in the context of the workplan for the Organization in the coming year, taking into account the medium-term plan and the fact that the responsibility for establishing priorities rests with the Member States.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat.
74.	51/241, annex, para. 9 *Also in*: 55/285, annex, para. 13	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization shall, inter alia, contain an analytical and concise annex elaborating the costs by major programmes and activities of all bodies of the United Nations system, located both in and outside New York, according to their mandates, so as to improve Member States' overview of system-wide issues.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat.
75.	51/241, annex, para. 3	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization should be available not later than 30 days prior to the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly in all official languages of the Organization so as to permit	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. During the seventy-first session the report was available within the deadline requested.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		due consideration.		
76.	51/241, annex, para. 7	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization shall be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly immediately after the general debate.	Secretary-General/ Member States (General Assembly)	Provision implemented by the Secretariat on an ongoing basis. The report is considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly immediately after the general debate.
77.	51/241, annex, para. 10	The Secretary-General is requested to introduce the report orally at an appropriate time under the agenda item "Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization".	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General introduces his report orally under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization".
J. Provisions related to the agenda of the General Assembly				
78.	70/305, para. 20 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 22; 68/307, para. 16; 67/297, para. 15; 66/294, para. 18; 65/315, para. 14; 64/301, para. 18; and 63/309, para. 6	Emphasizes that the General Assembly and its Main Committees, at the seventy-first session, in consultation with Member States, should continue their consideration of and make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items on the agenda of the Assembly, including through the introduction of a sunset clause, with the clear consent of the sponsoring State or States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group.	Member States (General Assembly), Main Committees	Ongoing provision. At the seventieth session, the Second Committee undertook a process of informal consultations on the revitalization of the work of the Second Committee. Separately, the President of the seventieth session of the General Assembly appointed a group of facilitators to find agreement, in consultation with Member States, on strategically aligning the agenda of future sessions of the General Assembly with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals.
79.	70/305, para. 22	Also recalls the need to enhance synergies and coherence and reduce overlap where it is found to exist in the agendas of the General Assembly, especially of its Second and Third Committees, the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, and the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council and the Assembly, as well as all other	Member States (General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, high-level political forum on sustainable development)	The President of the seventieth session of the General Assembly appointed a group of facilitators to find agreement, in consultation with Member States, on strategically aligning the agenda of future sessions of the Assembly with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals. The President of the seventy-first session appointed two co-facilitators whose report, which includes recommendations for consideration

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		related forums, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and in the light of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and calls for the continuation of such efforts during the seventy-first session of the Assembly.		by the Ad Hoc Working Group dur the seventy-first session, was circulated in a letter from the President of the General Assembly dated 17 July 2017. See also item 78 above.
80.	58/316, annex, para. 2 (a) and (d)	(a) Pursuant to paragraph 4 of section B of the annex to resolution 58/126, the agenda of the General Assembly shall be organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, as contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (or in the strategic framework, as appropriate), with an additional heading for "Organizational, administrative and other matters"; (d) The provisions of the present section shall be reviewed by the General Assembly at its sixty-first session with a view to making further improvements, as appropriate.	Secretary-General, Member States (General Assembly)	One-time action. As from the fifty-ninth session, the agenda of the General Assembly has been organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of t Organization, as contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and, subsequently, in accordance with the strategic framework for the period 2006-20 with an additional heading I, entitl "Organizational, administrative an other matters" (A/61/483, p. 13, an A/62/608). During the sixty-first session no revision was made by the General Assembly.
81.	58/316, annex, para. 4	Provisions related to allocation of agenda items (for details see resolution 58/316, para. 4).	Member States, Secretary-General	One-time action. The provisions of this paragraph have been implemented as from the fifty-ninth session and reflected in the agenda eacl. session (A/62/608, and resolution 58/316, para. 4).
82.	55/285, annex, paras. 3-9	Provisions related to clustering of agenda items concerning cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations.	Member States/ Secretary-General	One-time action. Provision implemented as requested and reflected in the agenda of each session.
83.	55/285, annex, paras. 10 and 11	Provisions related to biennialization of agenda items (for details see resolution 55/285, paras. 10 and 11).	Member States, Secretary-General	One-time action. The provisions ha been implemented as requested.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
84.	55/285, annex, para. 12	The following item shall be considered by the Third Committee, starting at the fifty-sixth session: "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly".	Member States, Secretary-General	One-time action. The provisions have been implemented as requested.
85.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 4	With a view to better conceptualization of the content of the agenda of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General is requested to submit to the Assembly, for its consideration by 1 March 2004, an illustrative agenda of the Assembly, based on all the agenda items of the fifty-eighth session, organized around the priorities of the Organization for the period 2002-2005. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the illustrative agenda before making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.	Secretary-General, General Committee	One-time action. In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Illustrative agenda of the General Assembly" (A/58/CRP.4), which the Assembly considered at its fifty-eighth session (A/61/483, p. 12). See also comments for provision 77 above.
86.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 5	The President of the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, in consultation with the Secretary-General, and following consultations with concerned Member States, is requested to make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items of the customary agenda of the Assembly for the consideration of the General Committee by 1 April 2004. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the proposals before making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.	President of the General Assembly	One-time action. Subsequent to the adoption of resolution 58/126, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Analysis of the agenda of the General Assembly" which was considered by the General Committee in open-ended informal consultations.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
87.	55/285, annex, para. 2 *Also in:* 51/241, annex, para. 24	The rationalization and streamlining of the agenda of the General Assembly should continue in order to enable the Assembly to focus its work on priority issues. Any change or suggestion concerning the agenda is made with the understanding that Member States may at any time propose any issue or item for the attention and consideration of the Assembly.	Member States (General Assembly)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
88.	51/241, annex, para. 23	Bearing in mind rule 81 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the requirements for reopening debate on an agenda item which the Assembly had decided was completed will continue to be as at present and should be made clear to delegations through a statement from the President of the Assembly. A delegation wishing to reopen debate on an agenda item should send a written request to the President of the Assembly. The President will then undertake soundings to ascertain whether the request enjoys wide support. In the light of these soundings, the President shall announce in the *Journal of the United Nations* the date of the meeting of the Assembly to consider the question of reopening debate on the item, bearing in mind the requirements of rule 81.	Member States (General Assembly), President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. See also: rule 81.
89.	51/241, annex, para. 25	As a general rule, agenda items that could be considered in the Main Committees shall be referred to the Main Committees rather than the General Assembly in plenary meetings.	General Assembly, Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
K. Provisions related to practices and working methods of the Main Committees of the General Assembly				
90.	69/321, para. 16 *Also in*: 68/307, para. 13; 60/286, annex, para. 25; and 59/313, para. 8	Appreciates the briefings by the Chairs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group about the working methods of their respective Committees during the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly, and in this regard encourages the Main Committees: (a) To ensure adequate coordination in their work while avoiding overlap and duplication; (b) To hold elections for the bureaux of the Main Committees at least three months before the opening of each session, and preferably up to six months in advance of the session, and calls upon the regional groups to proceed with relevant nominations in a timely manner and in accordance with the interim arrangement set out in Assembly decision 68/505 of 1 October 2013; (c) To benefit from their respective intranet and other online services to facilitate the smooth organization and timely conclusion of their work; (d) To further enhance sharing of information on the work and activities of the Main Committees within each Main Committee; (e) To further improve the management of the negotiation process for Assembly resolutions.	Main Committees	Main Committees periodically hold informal meetings on their working methods. Quickplace sites provide a tool for Main Committees to facilitate their work. In the past, some of the Main Committees explored ways and possibilities of enhancing their cooperation. For instance, during the sixtieth and sixty-first sessions there were joint meetings of the bureaux of the Second and Third Committees.
91.	70/305, para. 17 *Also in*:	Requests each Main Committee to further discuss its working methods at the	Main Committees, Main	Implemented on an ongoing basis. Briefings were provided to the Ad Hoc Working Group by Main

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
	69/321, para. 19; 68/307, para. 14; 67/297, para. 13; 66/294, para. 19; and 65/315, para. 15	beginning of every session, and in this regard invites the Chairs of the Main Committees to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group during the seventy-first session on any best practices and lessons learned with a view to improving working methods, as appropriate.	Committee Chairs	Committee Chairs from the sixty-fifth to the seventy-first session.
92.	69/321, para. 17 *Also in*: 59/313, annex, para. 9	Calls upon outgoing Chairs of the Main Committees to brief incoming Chairs on best practices and lessons learned from previous sessions of the Main Committees and to provide their written observations and lessons learned to their immediate successors, and encourages the incoming Chairs and bureaux of the Main Committees to consult with Member States shortly after their election on how the work will be conducted during the upcoming session of their Committee.	Main Committees	Provision is implemented by the Main Committees on an ongoing basis. The observations and "lessons learned" are presented during the informal meetings between incoming and outgoing bureaux of the respective committees.
93.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (a) *Also in*: 59/313, para. 7; and 51/241, annex, para. 26	Main Committees shall give specific attention to the rationalization of their future agendas by the biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items, and make recommendations to the plenary Assembly for its decision by 1 April 2005.	Main Committees	In response to this request, the Main Committees at the fifty-ninth and sixtieth sessions made recommendations to the Assembly
94.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (b) *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 30	Main Committees shall adopt a provisional programme of work at the end of the session for the next session to help them better to plan, prepare and organize and, in this context, review the related documentation requirements.	Main Committees	Implemented as from the fifty-ninth session (information on the programme of work of the Fifth Committee is usually not available owing to the time frame of the Committee's work) (A/61/483, p. and A/62/608).
95.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (c)	The practice of interactive debates and panel discussions shall be utilized or expanded, as appropriate, by all Main	Main Committees	Provision is being implemented on an ongoing basis. The Committees make extensive use of interactive debates and panels; for example, panel

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		Committees so as to enhance informal, in-depth discussions and to bring together experts from various fields without prejudicing the progress of the substantive work of the Main Committees.		meetings are of particular importance for the work of the Second Committee.
96.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (d) *Also in:* 51/241, annex, para. 53	The practice of "question time" shall be introduced, as appropriate, in all Main Committees to enable a dynamic and candid exchange with heads of departments and offices, representatives of the Secretary-General and special rapporteurs.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. As from the fifty-ninth session, Main Committees introduced the "question time", which has a significant importance for their work.
97.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (e)	The websites of the Main Committees shall be enhanced and thereafter regularly updated and their content maintained by the secretariats of the Main Committees.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The websites of the Main Committees continue to be enhanced and regularly updated by the respective secretariats (A/61/483, p. 15, and A/62/608).
98.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (f)	The bureaux-elect of the Main Committees shall meet immediately after their election in order to discuss the organization and division of their work.	Main Committees	Ongoing provision. Provision implemented as from the fifty-eighth session.
99.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (g)	With a view to ensuring the continuity and the effective organization of their work, the incoming bureaux of the Main Committees shall, no later than two weeks after their election, meet with the outgoing bureaux in order to consult on and review issues relating to the efficient functioning of the Main Committees.	Main Committees	Implemented by most of the Main Committees as from the fifty-eighth session.
100.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (h) *Also in:* 51/241, annex, para. 30	Prior to the opening of each session, informal briefings of each Main Committee shall be convened to discuss the organization of work.	Main Committees	Implemented as from the fifty-ninth session.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
101.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 8	The Main Committees of the General Assembly are bound by the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, although they have different practices and working methods. With a view to identifying best practices and working methods, and recognizing the ongoing efforts of the Main Committees to streamline their work, the Secretary-General, drawing on the experience of previous Chairs of the Main Committees, is requested to submit a historical and analytical note on the practices and working methods of the Main Committees for the consideration of the General Committee by 1 April 2004. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the note before making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.	Secretary-General	In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Historical and analytical note on the practices and working methods of the Main Committees" (A/58/CRP.5), which was considered by the General Committee in open-ended informal consultations (A/61/483, p. 13, and A/62/608).
102.	51/241, annex, para. 51	There shall be a more detailed and structured examination in the Main Committees of the relevant reports of the Board of Auditors, the Joint Inspection Unit and the Office of Internal Oversight Services in relation to the substantive work of these Committees.	Main Committees	The reports are examined in the Main Committees on an ad hoc basis, if necessary.
103.	51/241, annex, para. 31	The Main Committees shall meet in substantive session only after the end of the general debate.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
104.	51/241, annex, para. 36	The First Committee and the Fourth Committee shall not meet simultaneously and may consider meeting in a sequential manner during the regular session of the General Assembly. This arrangement	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The secretaries of the First and Fourth Committees undertake consultation for the purpose of avoiding simultaneous meetings.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		shall not apply if it affects their respective identities, programmes of work and effective consideration of their agendas.		
L. Provisions related to the General Committee				
105.	60/286, annex, para. 27 *Also in:* 58/316, annex, para. 5 (b)	Reiterates its call for the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.	General Committee	Since the adoption of resolution 58/316, the General Committee has met throughout the session of the General Assembly.
106.	51/241, annex, para. 33	The General Committee shall use its authority and competence, taking into account rule 43 of the rules of procedure, by allowing Member States that are not represented on the General Committee to participate in its discussions. The process of decision-making will continue to be as at present.	General Committee	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
107.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (a)	The work of the General Committee shall be carried out in accordance with section VI of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.	General Committee	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
108.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (b)	The General Committee shall continue to meet throughout the session and to play the leading role in advising the General Assembly on the efficient organization, coordination and management of its work.	General Committee	Since the adoption of resolution 58/316, the General Committee has met throughout the session of the General Assembly and played its leading role in advising the Assembly in the organization of its work.
109.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (c)	To ensure the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the General Committee shall meet regularly throughout the session with the bureaux of the Main Committees to review the progress of the work of the Main Committees and to make recommendations for furthering such progress.	General Committee	Since the adoption of the provision, the General Committee has met throughout the sessions of the General Assembly to ensure the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure. Main Committee Chairs regularly briefed the General Committee on the work of their Committees.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
110.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (d)	In July of each year, the General Committee shall conduct a review of the proposed programme of work for the forthcoming session of the General Assembly, on the basis of a report to be submitted by the Secretary-General, and submit recommendations on the matter to the forthcoming Assembly. The report of the Secretary-General shall include information on the status of documentation to be issued during the forthcoming session.	General Committee	Provision to be implemented on an ongoing basis. In response to this request, the Secretary-General annually submits reports to the General Assembly, including the requested information on the status of documentation.
111.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (f)	On the basis of proposals from the President of the General Assembly, and in the light of the positive experience during the fifty-eighth session, the General Committee shall be encouraged, as appropriate, to continue to schedule informal briefings on topical issues.	General Committee	At the fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions, the General Committee held a number of informal briefings on topical issues. Owing to the rising number of thematic debates, the practice of informal briefings in the General Committee has been limited to avoid duplication.
112.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (h)	The General Committee shall continue to consider ways and means to further improve its working methods to increase its efficiency and effectiveness in all aspects, and make recommendations on the matter to the General Assembly for its decision by 1 April 2005.	General Committee	The General Committee continues to consider ways and means of improving its working methods. No recommendation has been made in that regard since the adoption of this provision.
113.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 1	The General Committee shall meet throughout the session and further improve its working methods to increase its efficiency and effectiveness. It will play the leading role in advising the General Assembly on the efficient organization, coordination and management of its work. In this connection, the Assembly will also consider proposals to reform the General Committee.	General Committee	The General Assembly, at its fifty-eighth session, adopted resolution 58/316, by which, inter alia, it decided on a number of measures with regard to the reform of the General Committee.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
114.	55/285, annex, para. 20	In order to enhance the capacity of the General Committee to assist the President of the General Assembly in the conduct of the business of the Assembly and to improve continuity between its different sessions, at the outset of each session, each Vice-President of the Assembly shall designate a liaison person for the duration of the session. This designation may be made informally, without any amendment to rule 39 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, by means of a letter to its President.	General Committee	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
115.	51/241, annex, para. 34	The General Committee may, each year, prior to the closure of the session, prepare suggestions based on its experience for the consideration of the incoming General Committee.	General Committee	Suggestions have been made on an ongoing basis during informal meetings between the incoming and outgoing General Committees.
116.	51/241, annex, para. 35	The General Committee is requested to consider and recommend to the General Assembly methods and procedures for streamlining and rationalizing the Committee's work. The General Committee shall, in this context, in relation to each agenda item proposed, consider its rejection or its inclusion in the provisional agenda, taking into account previous recommendations of the General Committee and previous relevant decisions of the Assembly.	General Committee	Provisions to be implemented by the General Committee.

Cluster III: selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
A. General provision related to the selection of the Secretary-General				
117.	70/305, para. 37 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 34; 68/307, para. 26; 60/286, annex, para. 17; 51/241, annex, para. 57	Reiterates that the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General differs from the process used with regard to other executive heads in the organizations of the United Nations system, given the roles of the Security Council and the General Assembly in accordance with Article 97 of the Charter, emphasizes in particular that the process of selection of the Secretary-General shall be guided by the principles of transparency and inclusiveness, building on best practices and the participation of all Member States, and also emphasizes the need to continue to fully implement resolution 69/321.		Ongoing provision.
118.	70/305, para. 40 *Also in*: 69/307, para. 39; 60/286, annex, para. 22	Stresses, in particular, the need to ensure the appointment of the best possible candidate for the position of Secretary-General, who embodies the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity and who demonstrates a firm commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, proven leadership and managerial abilities, extensive experience in international relations and strong diplomatic, communication and multilingual skills.		Ongoing provision.
B. Provisions related to the selection process				
119.	70/305, para. 41 *Also in*:	Reaffirms its commitment to continue, in the Ad Hoc Working Group, in	Ad Hoc Working Group,	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Ad Hoc Working Group has devoted a thematic

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
	69/321, para. 32 68/307, para. 25; 67/297, para. 23; 66/294, para. 25; 65/315, para. 20; and 64/301, para. 14	accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, its thorough consideration of the issues under the third thematic cluster of the Working Group, on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, including the examination of innovative ways to improve the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General and other executive heads in all its aspects, and recalls all relevant resolutions, including resolutions 11(I) of 24 January 1946, 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 47/233 of 17 August 1993, 48/264, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 52/163 of 15 December 1997, 55/14 of 3 November 2000, 55/285 of 7 September 2001, 56/509 of 8 July 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 57/301, 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286, 61/292 of 2 August 2007, 62/276 of 15 September 2008, 63/309 of 14 September 2009, 64/301 of 13 September 2010, 65/315 of 12 September 2011, 66/294 of 17 September 2012, 67/297 of 29 August 2013, 68/307 and 69/321, reaffirming the applicable procedures set out in the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in particular rule 141, and acknowledging existing relevant practices of the Assembly.	Member States	meeting in each of its recent sessions to this issue. At the seventieth session, the Co-Chairs also convened a dedicated informal brainstorming session on, inter alia, the possibility of modifying the term of office to a single, non-renewable term, and of recommending more than one candidate for consideration by the General Assembly.
120.	70/305, para. 42 *Also in:* 69/321, para. 33	Calls upon the President of the General Assembly to monitor and review the Assembly's implementation of these resolutions.	President of the General Assembly	Ongoing provision.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
121.	69/321, para. 35 *Also in*: 60/286, annex, para. 19; 51/241, annex, para. 60	Requests the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Security Council to start the process of soliciting candidates for the position of Secretary-General through a joint letter addressed to all Member States, containing a description of the entire process and inviting candidates to be presented in a timely manner.	President of the General Assembly, President of the Security Council	A joint letter by the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council dated 15 December 2015 was sent to all Member States (see document A/70/623-S/2015/988).
122.	69/321, para. 36	Also requests the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Security Council to jointly circulate to all Member States on an ongoing basis the names of individuals that have been submitted for consideration as candidates for the position of Secretary-General together with accompanying documents, including curricula vitae.	President of the General Assembly, President of the Security Council	Ongoing implementation. The President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council, have jointly circulated, on an ongoing basis, the names of individuals that have been submitted for consideration as candidates during the seventieth and seventy-first sessions.
123.	70/305, para. 38 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 37	Notes that the selection and appointment of the next Secretary-General is expected to take place in 2016, and as a result requests, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session to actively support this process in accordance with the role accorded to them by relevant resolutions, including the present resolution.	Presidents of the seventieth and seventy-first sessions of the General Assembly	Implemented by the Presidents of the seventieth and seventy-first sessions of the General Assembly.
124.	70/305, para. 39 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 38; 68/307, para. 28; 66/294, para. 26; 60/286, annex, para. 18; and 51/241, annex, paras. 56 and 59	Reaffirms paragraph 38 of resolution 69/321, and welcomes the presentation of a significant number of women for the position of ninth Secretary-General of the United Nations, following its invitation to Member States to do so.	Member States (General Assembly, Security Council)	Implemented.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
125.	69/321, para. 42 *Also in*: 60/286, annex, para. 20	Decides, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, to conduct informal dialogues or meetings with candidates for the position of Secretary-General, without any prejudice to any candidate who does not participate, thus contributing to the transparency and inclusivity of the process.	General Assembly, President of the General Assembly	The Presidents of the seventieth and seventy-first sessions of the General Assembly organized informal dialogues with all candidates submitted for consideration as the ninth Secretary-General.
C. Provisions related to the appointment and duration of the term (See also part I)				
126.	60/286, annex, para. 21 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 61	Recalls paragraph 61 of its resolution 51/241, in which it is stated that, in order to ensure a smooth and efficient transition, the Secretary-General should be appointed as early as possible, preferably no later than one month before the date on which the term of the incumbent expires.	General Assembly, Security Council	The provision is being implemented to the extent possible. Resolution 71/4, by which the General Assembly appointed António Guterres Secretary-General of the United Nations for a term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 and ending on 31 December 2021, was adopted on 13 October 2016.
127.	51/241, annex, para. 58	The duration of the term or terms of appointment, including the option of a single term, shall be considered before the appointment of the next Secretary-General.	Member States	Member States decide on the duration of the term on a case-by-case basis, on the recommendation of the Security Council. At the seventieth session, the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group convened an informal brainstorming session on, inter alia, the possibility of modifying the term of office to a single, non-renewable term, and of recommending more than one candidate for consideration by the General Assembly.
D. Miscellaneous/other				
128.	69/321, para. 40	Requests the Secretary-General to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group in a streamlined and comprehensive way on the gender balance and regional origin of the executive heads and the Senior Management Group of the Organization.	Secretary-General	At its third meeting, on 22 March 2016, the Ad Hoc Working Group was briefed by the Acting Director of the Strategic Planning and Staffing Division of the Office of Human Resources Management, Department of Management, on the gender balance and regional origin of executive heads and the Senior Management Group of the United Nations.

No	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
129.	70/305, para. 43	Welcomes the briefing provided by the Secretariat to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the gender balance and regional origin of the executive heads of the United Nations system and the Senior Management Group of the Organization, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to take all effective measures towards achieving equal and fair distribution based on gender and geographical balance, while securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity.	Secretary-General	Implemented on an ongoing basis.
130.	70/305, para. 44 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 43	Recalls its resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, in particular paragraph 2, which notes that the Secretary-General will appoint the Deputy Secretary-General following consultations with Member States, and stresses that the process of appointments to senior posts by the Secretary-General within the Organization should be inclusive and transparent, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and as set out in the Charter.	Secretary-General	Ongoing provision.
131.	70/305, para. 45	Stresses the need to ensure equal and fair distribution based on gender balance and as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard recalls its resolutions 46/232 of 2 March 1992 and 51/241, adopted without a vote, which contain the principles that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity are the paramount considerations in the recruitment and performance of international civil servants and that, as a general rule, there should be no monopoly on senior posts in the United Nations system by nationals of any State or group of States.	Secretary-General	Ongoing provision.

Cluster IV: strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A. Provisions related to the competencies of the President of the General Assembly				
132.	70/305, para. 57	Decides that the President-elect of the General Assembly shall take an oath of office of his or her own, as detailed in annex I to the present resolution, at the moment of handing over the gavel in the final plenary meeting of the preceding session, and decides that the text of the oath shall be annexed to the rules of procedure of the Assembly.	President of the General Assembly, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The oath of office was first taken by the President-elect of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly at the 118th plenary meeting of the seventieth session of the Assembly, on 13 September 2016. The rules of procedure have been reissued as document A/520/Rev.18 and include the oath of office under annex X.
133.	70/305, para. 58	Also decides that the President of the General Assembly shall observe a code of ethics, as detailed in annex II to the present resolution, and further decides that the text of the code of ethics for the President of the Assembly shall be annexed to the rules of procedure of the Assembly.	President of the General Assembly, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The rules of procedure have been reissued as document A/520/Rev.18 and include the code of ethics for the President of the General Assembly under annex XI.
134.	70/305, para. 49 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 46; 68/307, para. 31; 67/297, para. 27; 66/294, para. 29; 65/315, para. 24; 64/301, para. 13; and 63/309, para. 4	Encourages the Presidents of the General Assembly to continue with the practice of periodically briefing Member States on their activities, including official travel.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
135.	70/305, para. 51 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 48; 68/307, para. 33	Encourages exchanges between the President-elect of the General Assembly and the Council of Presidents of the General Assembly so that Presidents-elect may benefit from the experiences of former Presidents in terms of best practices and lessons learned.	President of the General Assembly	Provision to be implemented on an ongoing basis.

No	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
136.	70/305, para. 52 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 49; 67/297, para. 32; 66/294, para. 36; 65/315, para. 28; 64/301, para. 17; and 60/286, annex, para. 9	Requests the President of the General Assembly, assisted by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, to develop a standardized format for the written handover summary of best practices and lessons learned, to be transmitted to his or her successor as part of the handover briefing at the end of every Presidency and made available to Member States.	President of the General Assembly, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Implemented on an ongoing basis. The President of the seventy-first session shared with all Member States, in a letter dated 3 October 2016, the handover summary received from his predecessor, which was prepared on the basis of a standardized format developed by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and with the Department's technical assistance.
137.	70/305, para. 69 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 56; 68/307, para. 40; 67/297, para. 29	Requests the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to report on the implementation of all mandates accorded to him or her by the present resolution to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-first session of the Assembly.	President of the General Assembly, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	The President briefed the Ad Hoc Working Group at its fourth thematic meeting, which was held on 28 April 2017.
138.	58/126, annex, para. 7	In June of each year, the President-elect of the General Assembly, after taking into account the views provided by Member States and following consultations with the incumbent President and the Secretary-General, will suggest an issue, or issues, of global concern upon which Member States will be invited to comment during the general debate at the forthcoming session of the Assembly. The views provided by Member States should also be summarized and circulated to Member States. Such suggestions regarding the issue(s) for comment will be without prejudice to the sovereign right of Member States to solely and entirely determine the content of their general debate statements.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The President-elect of the seventy-first session proposed the following theme: "The Sustainable Development Goals: a universal push to transform our world".

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
B. Provisions related to the financial, logistic and technical support for the President of the General Assembly (See also part I)				
139.	70/305, para. 46	Commends the President of the General Assembly at its seventieth session for strengthening the transparency and inclusivity of his Office, including the increased and creative use of online facilities, and for releasing detailed information on the finances, official travel, staffing and activities of his Office, and invites future Presidents of the Assembly to follow these good practices.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Detailed information on finances, official travel, staffing and activities of the Office of the President of the General Assembly are made available on the website of the President.
140.	70/305, para. 53	Requests the President of the General Assembly to preserve the records and institutional memory during her or his term of office by using existing United Nations record-keeping and archiving facilities, taking into account existing record-keeping standards and practices of the Organization.	President of the General Assembly	To be implemented on an ongoing basis.
141.	70/305, para. 54	Requests the Secretary-General to utilize the existing United Nations record-keeping and archiving facilities in order to archive the documents of the Office of the President of the General Assembly.	Secretary-General	To be implemented on an ongoing basis upon receipt of relevant documentation from the Office of the President of the General Assembly.
142.	70/305, para. 59	Requests the Ethics Office of the Secretariat and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to provide an induction briefing to all Presidents of the General Assembly and members of the Office of the President of the General Assembly prior to the assumption of their duties.	Ethics Office, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management organized a two-day induction programme for the President-elect of the seventy-first session and his team, which took place on 7 and 8 September 2016 and included briefings on conference management support; the rules of procedure of the General Assembly; the programme of work of the seventy-first session; ethics, accountability and oversight; best practices in digital records

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
				management; communications and media; budget, finance, human resources and administrative matte and an overview of the protocol services available to the President the General Assembly.
143.	70/305, para. 61	Requests the Secretary-General, and invites the heads of specialized agencies, funds and programmes, upon request by the President of the General Assembly, to consider seconding staff to work in the Office of the President of the General Assembly on a more systematic basis.	Secretary-General, heads of specialized agencies, funds and programmes	Provision to be implemented on an ongoing basis.
144.	70/305, para. 62	Decides that Presidents of the General Assembly shall provide financial disclosures upon assumption and completion of their duties, in line with the existing United Nations financial disclosure programme.	President of the General Assembly	Provision to be implemented on an ongoing basis.
145.	70/305, para. 65	Also requests the Secretary-General to make non-staff programme budget resources available to Presidents of the General Assembly from the date of their election.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
146.	70/305, para. 67	Stresses the need for all contributions to be vetted through the Ethics Office and for non-in-kind contributions to be channelled through the Trust Fund.	President of the General Assembly, Ethics Office	Provision to be implemented on an ongoing basis.
147.	70/305, para. 68	Requests Presidents of the General Assembly to publish information on the website of the President on an ongoing basis on substantive activities, contributions to the Office of the President of the General Assembly and details of official travel undertaken during his or her Presidency and to produce an end-of-term report on these matters.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
148.	70/305, para. 66 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 55; 68/307, para. 39; 67/297, para. 28; 66/294, para. 33; and 64/301, para. 12	Stresses the importance of the contributions of Member States to the Trust Fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and in this regard notes with appreciation the contributions that have been made to the Fund, and encourages Member States to continue to contribute to the Fund and to allow for unspent contributions from previous sessions to be made available for succeeding terms.	Member States	Since the adoption of resolution 66/294, a number of contributions have been made to the trust fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly. Further, each incoming President of the Assembly is briefed about the fund and its modalities. The Presidents of the seventieth and seventy-first sessions have published information concerning contributions made to the trust fund on their websites.
149.	70/305, para. 55 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 50; 68/307, para. 34	Stresses the need to promote and ensure gender balance throughout the United Nations system, and in this regard invites Member States to consider presenting women as candidates for the position of President of the General Assembly, and encourages Presidents-elect to continue to ensure respect for balanced gender and geographical representation in the Office of the President of the General Assembly.		Provision to be implemented on an ongoing basis.
150.	70/305, para. 56 *Also in*: 69/321, para. 51; 68/307, para. 35; 67/297, para. 30; 66/294, para. 34; and 65/315, para. 26	Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-first session of the General Assembly on the sources of funding and staffing of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, including on any technical, logistical, protocol-related or financial questions, and for more clarification on the budgetary basis for the provision of such support by the Secretariat.	Secretary-General	The Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management briefed the Ad Hoc Working Group during its fourth thematic meeting, which was held on 28 April 2017.
151.	66/294, para. 35 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 27; 64/301,	Requests the Secretary-General to further endeavour to ensure, within agreed resources, that the President of the General Assembly is provided with	Secretary-General	The Department of Safety and Security continues to provide close protection coverage for the President of the General Assembly from within existing resources, and the

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing party	Comments
	para. 11; and 59/313, para. 3 (d)	proper protocol and security services and adequate office space, with a view to enabling the President of the Assembly to carry out his or her functions in a manner commensurate with the dignity and stature of the Office.		Department for General Assembly and Conference Management continues to provide protocol services to the Office of the President of the General Assembly. In addition, new office space has been made available to the Office in the renovated conference building.
152.	70/305, para. 60 *Also in:* 69/321, para. 52; 68/307, para. 36; 67/297, paras. 31 and 32; 66/294, para. 36; 65/315, para. 28; 63/309, para. 5; and 60/286, annex, para. 9	Emphasizes the need to ensure, from within agreed resources, that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is allocated dedicated Secretariat staff, with responsibility to in an efficient and capable manner, coordinate the transition between Presidents, manage interactions between the President and the Secretary-General and preserve institutional memory, welcomes the provision by Member States of staff from their respective permanent missions to be seconded to the Office of the President, and encourages the continuation of this existing good practice.	Secretariat, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management provides technical, procedural and substantive support to the Office of the President of the General Assembly throughout the year and briefs Presidents-elect and their teams on the work of the forthcoming session. As of 2016, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management organizes a two-day induction programme each year (see also item 142 above). The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management is also the focal point for the institutional memory of the work and practices of the General Assembly within the Secretariat.
153.	59/313, para. 3 (b)	Decides to strengthen the role and leadership of the President of the General Assembly by: (b) Augmenting the resources available to the Office of the President of the General Assembly from within existing resources, subject to consideration by the Assembly of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007, to provide for two further additional posts at management and senior levels to be filled on an annual basis following consultations with the incoming President, beginning at the sixtieth session of the Assembly.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented as from the sixtieth session (A/61/483, p. 18).

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
154.	58/126, annex, para. 10	The resources available to the Office of the President of the General Assembly in personnel and other support shall be augmented from within existing resources, bearing in mind the provisions of paragraph 22 of the annex to resolution 55/285. Five additional posts shall be made available to supplement current support, of which three shall be filled on an annual basis, following consultations with the incoming President, beginning at the fifty-ninth session of the Assembly.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented as from the fifty-ninth session (A/61/483, p. 11, and A/62/608).
155.	55/285, annex, para. 22 *Also in:* 51/241, annex, para. 44	Additional measures are required to implement paragraph 44 of the annex to resolution 51/241, in particular in the area of substantive support for the President of the General Assembly. Therefore, adequate support should be made available to the Office of the President in the substantive areas of its work. To this end, the Secretary-General is requested to take appropriate measures and to submit proposals to the relevant committees for their consideration during the fifty-sixth session of the Assembly.	Secretary-General	Implemented on an ongoing basis. See also other relevant provisions.
156.	59/313, para. 3 (c)	Decides to strengthen the role and leadership of the President of the General Assembly by: (c) Making available to the President of the General Assembly adequate office and conference space with a view to enabling the President to carry out his/her functions in a manner commensurate with the dignity and stature of the Office.	Secretary-General	As of the sixty-eighth session, new office space has been made available to the Office of the President of the General Assembly in the renovated conference building.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
157.	60/286, annex, para. 11 *Also in*: 58/126, annex, para. 11	Requests the Secretary-General to continue to make the necessary arrangements for the provision of transitional office accommodation and other support to the President-elect of the General Assembly, in accordance with resolution 58/126.	Secretary-General	Beginning with the fifty-ninth session, transitional office space and other support have been provided to the Presidents-elect (A/61/483, p. 11, and A/62/608, p. 6).